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Hitler Suggests A Four-Power Pact **INGENIOUS BERLIN SCHEME REPORTED**

EUROPE WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO TWO SPHERES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

LONDON, TO-DAY.

HITLER, IN HIS MEETING WITH SIGNOR MUSSOLINI, HANDED THE ITALIAN DICTATOR A NEW PEACE PLAN WHICH IL DUCE IS NOW CONSIDERING, DECLARED THE "NEWS CHRONICLE" THIS MORNING.

According to the "News Chronicle," the plan provides for a four-power pact (between Britain, France, Germany and Italy) for the division of Europe into two main spheres of interest.

One sphere would be under the influence of the Western Powers and the other, under this ingenious Nazi plan, would be the sole concern of the Axis Powers—Germany and Italy.

The German-Italian sphere would include the Czech provinces of Bohemia and Moravia, Slovakia and Poland, where the Nazis would have a grip on communications, finances and so forth for a period of 25 years.

The German-Italian sphere would also include the Danube countries, which would be formed into a confederation under the Nazi-Fascist aegis.

Revelation Soon

The "Daily Mail" declares this morning that Hitler's talk with Il Duce will result in a renewed diplomatic co-operation between the two countries, including a peace offensive.

Meanwhile, the capitals of Europe await with bewilderment an answer to the Mussolini-Hitler meeting, an answer which may be forthcoming this month.

The Balkans

A wave of reports and rumours has been forthcoming, the report that an Italo-Rumanian-German accord has been reached meeting with some acceptance.

According to this report Germany and Italy agreed that the Balkans must be kept out of the war, and that a joint Italo-Germano-Russian agreement to this effect will be forthcoming.

Much significance is attached to the forthcoming visit to Rome of the Hungarian Premier, who will confer with

WEATHER FORECAST:—East winds, fresh to moderate; cloudy, probably improving.

CHANGE IN FRENCH POLICY SEEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

Rumours of a forthcoming Cabinet reshuffle are continuing and the opinion is generally expressed that Senator Pierre Laval, former Premier and one of the signatories of the Hoare/Laval agreement on Abyssinia in 1935, will receive a portfolio.

This has led to rumours that French policy to Italy is likely to undergo an important change.

Some speak of the possibility that Daladier and Mussolini will meet, but this is categorically denied.

Meanwhile, interpellations on conduct of the war and the Finnish affair will be heard in the Chamber of Deputies this morning.

Mobilized deputies have been granted special leave.—Havas.

HALF THE NAVY SUNK --SAYS GOEBBELS

London, To-day.

The German radio and press are playing up the Scapa raid for all they are worth, and are now asking Germans to believe that most of the Royal Navy has been destroyed!

It is stated in London that this lying propaganda reflects the Nazi anxiety to convince Germans that at last the Nazi Government has begun to justify its existence.—Reuter.

STRINGS ATTACHED TO DUCE'S HELP

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

LONDON, TO-DAY.

WELL-INFORMED CIRCLES SAY THAT MUSSOLINI ENDEAVOURED TO PERSUADE HITLER TO CONCEDE CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS CONCERNING POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AIMING TO BRING GERMANY CLOSER TO THE ALLIES AND THEREBY ESTABLISH A POSSIBLE BASIS FOR PEACE.

Apparently Hitler's intention was to strengthen his position with Italy and attempt to bully the Allies with the threat of a large-scale war unless they agree to an immediate peace.

The general opinion is that Mussolini is willing to offer to mediate, but not at the expense of Italian neutrality.—Havas.

NEUTRALS FAVOUR A COMPROMISE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

PARIS, TO-DAY.

EXPRESSING THE GENERAL OPINION OF FRENCH POLITICAL CIRCLES, "LE TEMPS" SAYS THAT HITLER'S ATTEMPT AT A NEW PEACE OFFENSIVE IS NOT SURPRISING, SINCE IT WAS ALWAYS TO BE EXPECTED THAT THE REICH WOULD MAKE ANOTHER PEACE ATTEMPT BEFORE SEEKING A MILITARY DECISION.

For the time being, the Reich is endeavouring to include President Roosevelt and the Pope.

Most neutrals favour a compromise leaving Germany the large part of her loot.—Havas.



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COMMONS DEBATE

EXPANSION OF THE MERCHANT NAVY

London, To-day.

THE SHIPPING AND SHIPBUILDING position was reviewed yesterday in the House of Commons where Mr. Ernest Shinwell (Opposition Labour), in moving a motion criticising the Ministry of Shipping and demanding speedy expansion of the shipbuilding programme, declared that the Ministry entered into agreements with neutral ship-owners for the use of their vessels at rates much higher than received by British ship-owners.

Mr. Shinwell said that it was rather alarming that we had lost more than three-quarters of a million tons of merchant shipping in the first six months of the war besides many vessels damaged. He said that there were at present over 16,000 men unemployed in the shipbuilding and ship-repairing industries as well as 20,000 engineers.

He understood that 70 per cent. of shipbuilding at present was on naval account and suggested that the Admiralty should be requested to release as many skilled men as they could for building the merchant navy.

Sir John Gilmour, Minister of Shipping, replying, paid tribute to the men of the Mercantile Marine and fishermen, and to the very valuable contribution made by the Empire, particularly India, and said that the Government was satisfied that the agreements with neutral owners represented a reasonable bargain to the mutual advantage of both parties.

LOANS FOR NEW SHIPS

It was inevitable that rates for neutrals should be higher than those for British ships because, in chartering neutrals, Government were competing in the international market.

Sir John Gilmour mentioned loans of £4,750,000 granted in respect of 55 new vessels and referred to the proposed scheme for compensation whereby owners of ships lost by war risks will be given cash equal to the amount for which the ship was insured before the war, plus a sum to be assessed by an independent tribunal which will be held in trust until the owner signed a contract for the replacement of the lost ship. — Reuter.

ADMIRALTY RESPONSIBILITY

London, To-day.

Intervening in the debate to explain how the Admiralty were discharging their responsibility for merchant shipbuilding, Mr. Geoffrey Shakespeare, Parliamentary secretary to the Admiralty, said the potential capacity of our shipyards to-day was not less than their capacity at the highest peak of shipbuilding in the Great War.

At the outbreak of war over 900,000 tons of naval vessels and about 750,000 tons of merchant shipping were under construction.

MORE MEN WANTED

If, as the war proceeded, it became apparent that berths should be turned over from naval to mercantile construction, that must be done, for there might come a stage in the war when a merchantship would be almost more precious than a warship.

Mr. Shakespeare stated that since the war started the number of men employed in shipbuilding had risen from 90,000 to 131,000, and 20,000 more skilled men were wanted immediately. It was intended to achieve the maximum capacity of shipyards in merchantship construction and provide tonnage far exceeding any rate of sinking to be expected.

MOTION DEFEATED

The Labour motion was defeated by 266 votes to 89. — Reuter.

B.E.F. LEAVE RESUMED

London, To-day.

The War Office announce that leave from the B.E.F. has been resumed. — Reuter.

GERMAN AGENTS SENTENCED

Rotterdam, To-day.

A German newspaperman and a Netherlands subject were given six years' imprisonment each here yesterday when convicted of espionage.

The trial followed the recent raid on a secret radio transmitter concealed in an attic.

The actual charges involved the broadcasting of reports of weather conditions to Germany from Holland. — Reuter.

PUZZLE OF ALLIED AIR PURCHASES

Washington, To-day.

The Secretary of Treasury, Mr. Henry Morgenthau, yesterday denied reports that negotiations between the Anglo-French purchasing board and American aeroplane manufacturers had been suspended.

Mr. Morgenthau declared the negotiations were still proceeding, as far as he knew, and they would not be affected by the forthcoming Congressional enquiry into foreign purchases of aircraft.

The reports were also discounted by the British purchasing commission; nevertheless some observers feel that the forthcoming investigation, and the reported uncertainty over the exact types the Allies will be able to buy in contracts, may affect the speed with which the Allies can secure planes. — Reuter.

SOYA BEANS NOT FOR GERMANY

London, To-day.

The Netherlands is importing huge quantities of soya beans, and January's imports exceeded normal.

The British authorities are satisfied, however, that they are for the Netherlands and not for Germany.

The soya beans come from America and not Manchuria, and the increase is greatly offset by lower Netherlands imports of oilseeds, including linseed. — Reuter.

KAIFENG BRITONS DEPORTED

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

PEIPING, TO-DAY. FOUR BRITISH CHURCH WORKERS WHO HAD RECENTLY LEFT KAIFENG FOR KANSU VIA LOYANG AS A RESULT OF THE PRESSURE EXERTED BY THE HONAN ANTI-BRITISH COMMITTEE HAVE MADE AN ATTEMPT TO RETURN TO KAIFENG, BUT WERE VIRTUALLY DEPORTED FROM THE TOWN IMMEDIATELY ON THEIR ARRIVAL.

As soon as their presence in Kaifeng became known, the Anti-British Committee demanded their prompt evacuation and placed a carriage and horses at their disposal. The four Britons were then escorted to the west bank of the Yellow River by several members of the Committee.—Havas.

SOVIET CONSULATE AT KALGAN TO CLOSE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

PEIPING, TO-DAY. Due to the decrease in the number of Soviet nationals residing in the Kalgan district, the Soviet Consulate, opened in Kalgan in 1934, will be closed shortly.

The staff of the consulate and their families will shortly leave for Peiping.—Havas.

MR. WELLES KEEPS TO THE FACTS

WASHINGTON, TO-DAY. The Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, denied in a press interview yesterday that Mr. Sumner Welles was an intermediary between the European powers.

Mr. Hull emphasised Mr. Welles' trip was purely to ascertain the facts and he had strictly kept to this.—Reuter.

RATIONING SYSTEM IN MANCHUKUO

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

HSINKING, TO-DAY. The Manchukuo Government has decreed a rationing system for rice, wheat, coal and other necessities in sixteen cities including Mukden, Harbin, and Hsinking for the purpose of ensuring a more equitable distribution of staple commodities.—Havas.

FIVE LEAP AS BOMBS WRECK PLANE

FIVE R.A.F. men leaped to safety from a bomber as it bumped along the ground at 80 m.p.h.

The bomber careered on, hit an electrical transformer in a wood—and was blown to pieces by its own bombs. The blast shook houses six miles miles around in a moor in north-east Fife.

Taking off, the pilot saw his plane was not rising properly. He shouted to his crew of four: "Jump for your lives."

The four airmen struggled to the door. Within a few seconds they were rolling over and over on the rough moorland.

The pilot leaped just in time. Debris of the bomber, loaded for patrol work, landed as far away as a quarter of a mile.

"A BIG SIGHT"

The two engines were hurled 200ft. apart.

Foresters ran from a hut 300 yards away as the ceiling fell on them and windows cracked.

They found bits of aeroplane dropping around them and five airmen walking about calmly picking up personal possessions.

A man who lives nearby said:—"It was a terrific explosion. The bomber went sky high in pieces that you can pick up hundreds of yards away in all directions."

An eye-witness said: "I was over a mile away, crossing a field, when the bombs went up. It was a big sight."

ISLAND OF —2 JOBS

The storm-battered island of Sark was in the grip of tension... and the local parliament house buzzed with importance. Solemn-faced legislators were face to face with one of Sark's wartime problems.

The fiercely-fought debate was on—would Sark join the neighbouring Channel Island, Guernsey—and England—in adopting the system of reserved occupations for military service.

The population—all the 800 souls—waited tensely for "parliament's" decision....

A roar went up.... yes, Sark had decided to adopt the British way....

While the opposition were roaring "why," a cold douche from "prime minister" William Corre washed nearly all the gill off "parliament's" decision. He said, lolly: "People do only two things in Sark—they farm, and they fish." Just two occupations to reserve....

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AIR BLITZKRIEG THREAT RENEWED

R.A.F. NEEDS MORE AIR GUNNERS

London, To-day.
The rapid increase of the Royal Air Force has brought a demand for more air-gunners and, for the first time in the history of the service, commissions will be granted for the duration of the war.
Men between the ages of 28 and 36 will be accepted.
The award of commissions recognises the vital part air-gunners play when a bomber is attacked by enemy fighters.—Reuter.

FIGHTING IN KWANGSI

KWEILIN, TO-DAY.
A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE GENERALISSIMO'S PROVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST STATES THAT JAPANESE TROOPS YESTERDAY REACHED THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF LING-SHAN, 60 MILES NORTH-EAST OF YAMCHOW IN WEST KWANGTUNG NEAR THE KWANGSI BORDER WHERE THEY ARE ENCOUNTERING STUBBORN CHINESE RESISTANCE.

On the south bank of the Watkiang River the Chinese once again recaptured Shih Erh Tan, north-west of Tatang. Japanese communications on the Nanning-Yamchow highway have been cut.

About fifty Chinese civilians at Nachen and Tamheitsun on the south Kwangsi border were killed when the Japanese passed through the villages.
— Central News.

You'll remember the laughs,
you'll remember the tears
... you'll always remember
BARBARA and FRED in their
swellest romance!



TO-MORROW
QUEEN'S &
ALHAMBRA

MR. WELLES TOLD NAZI OFFENSIVE IS IMMINENT

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.

SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH the Mussolini-Hitler meeting in northern Italy come reports from various quarters containing Nazi threats to launch the much-vaunted "blitzkrieg" should the German peace proposals not be accepted by the Western Powers.

The Berlin radio, broadcasting a warning that Germany is about to launch an intensive air attack against Britain, declared: "Germany is determined to wage war as war against England must be waged — hard and inexorable."

In London, the "News Chronicle" says Mr. Sumner Welles has been advised of the imminence of a German military offensive.

AGREEMENT WITH SPAIN

MADRID, TO-DAY.

AN ANGLO-SPANISH TRADE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED HERE LAST NIGHT.

According to a statement issued by the Spanish Foreign Office the agreement, which comes into force immediately, will allow Spain to acquire raw materials in determined quantities not only in the United Kingdom but in the whole Sterling area.

Spain has also signed a trade agreement with Switzerland.—Reuter.

It is understood the President of the Board of Trade will make a statement on the Anglo-Spanish payments and trade agreement in the Commons to-day.—British Wireless.

MINIMUM PRICES OF TRUSTEE STOCKS

London, To-day.

Lists of trustee stocks showing new minimum prices were issued yesterday. As far as British Government securities are concerned minimum prices average between two and three points lower than the stocks' closing prices on Friday and are from five to seven points higher than the previous minimum.

War Loan minimum price, which was fixed last August at £88.10.0, is now £95 and was quoted on Friday at closing at £99.5.0.—British Wireless.

MERCHANT NAVY PAID A TRIBUTE

London, To-day.

In the House of Commons yesterday the Minister of Shipping paid a tribute to the wonderful spirit in which the men of the Mercantile Marine were responding to calls upon them despite the violent and inhumane enemy attacks to which they were exposed.—British Wireless.

COMMONS GREET MR. CHAMBERLAIN

London, To-day.

The Prime Minister, who was 71 yesterday, was received with general cheers when he rose to answer the first question put to him in the House of Commons, and was unable to reply for a considerable period.

Mr. Chamberlain seemed touched by the greeting and smiled to members in all parts of the House.—Reuter.

DOUBLING OF RATION

London, To-day.

Stocks in hand and in sight, which were low when rationing of butter was first introduced, have steadily accumulated since, and with imports from Australia and New Zealand now reaching their peak, the doubling of ration as from next Monday is regarded by the Ministry of Food as amply justified.

Stocks of bacon available are also considered satisfactory and supplies have been coming in extremely well during the last few months despite the doubling of the ration within a fortnight of introduction of the system.

Reports that stricter rationing of commodities has already been affected and its extension to others is in prospect are authoritatively denied.

The first week of meat rationing has passed satisfactorily and in the opinion of Food Ministry officials, retail butchers dealt with the situation extremely well. Only difficulties encountered were the result of heavy pressure on shops due to concentrated buying at the week-end.—British Wireless.

REMOVED FROM LIST

London, To-day.

Uruguay has been removed from the list of destinations covered by the recent Defence (Finance) Regulation providing that certain commodities can only be exported to destinations named if the foreign exchange proceeds in one of the currencies named are made available to the exchange control.—British Wireless.

According to this newspaper, Hitler and Goering told Mr. Welles that unless negotiations were started promptly on their terms, they were ready to start a large-scale war to force an early and complete victory.

The "Daily Express," Lord Beaverbrook's paper, suggests that if the Nazi proposals are guaranteed by other nations, including the United States, a different decision may arise.

LAST WEEK IN MARCH?

According to the Berlin correspondent of the Rome Journal "Lavoro Fascista," the last week in March will see a decision taken between a general offensive on the Western Front or a compromise peace.

The majority of Germans anticipate an offensive, he reports.

German circles close to Hitler interpret the significance of the raids on Scapa Flow as "proof of the imminence of smashing military action."
— Havas.

MAJOR VERNON DEAD

London, To-day.

Major Frank Vernon, the well-known theatrical producer, has died of pneumonia in a B.E.F. military hospital, states Reuter's special correspondent with the B.E.F.—Reuter.

SCAPA RAID

CAN'T COMPARE WITH FEATS OF R.A.F.

London, To-day.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE R.A.F. compare very favourably with those of the German equivalent, says the "Manchester Guardian."

With regard to the death of a civilian and the slight damage to a warship in Saturday's raid, the paper says that "the German claims are as fantastic as usual."

The raid did little to compare with the R.A.F. raids on German naval bases. The Germans have not yet found it possible to launch any air action comparable with the R.A.F. attacks on Wilhelmshaven and Brunsbuttel, when several direct hits were

made on a pocket-battleship from a height of a few hundred feet.

After mentioning other R.A.F. attacks on Borkum (mine-laying seaplane base) and Helligoland (on a concentration of German ships, when a hit of a cruiser was registered), the "Manchester Guardian" says that the Nazi raid on Scapa Flow chiefly consisted of dropping bombs on open moorland, and with the exception of seven naval casualties, with very little other result.—Reuter.

DALADIER TO MEET MUSSOLINI?

Rome, To-day.
Among unconfirmed conjectures circulating in the Italian capital last night was a suggestion that M. Edouard Daladier, the French Premier, may meet Signor Mussolini in Genoa to-day or on Wednesday.
In Paris, the suggestion was authoritatively denied. It was pointed out that M. Daladier was still in Paris last night and is due to speak in the Chamber debate to-day. — Reuter.

ARE WE HITTING AS OFTEN AS WE CAN? CLAMOUR FOR ACTION RENEWED

LATEST IN ANTI-BRITISH STORIES

London, To-day.
The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. R. A. Butler, stated in the House of Commons yesterday there was no truth in reports circulated in North China that Chinese coolies were being secretly recruited in North China and taken to France to dig trenches on the western front.
Asked what steps had been taken to counteract this "Japanese propaganda," Mr. Butler replied the attention of the Japanese authorities in North China had already been drawn to the untruthfulness of the reports. — Reuter.

THE ALLIES' PLEDGE TO TURKEY

LONDON, TO-DAY.
THE UNDER-SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS ASKED IN THE COMMONS IF, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT FINLAND WAS THE SECOND COUNTRY TO FALL IN WAR AGAINST AGGRESSION, A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN EXISTED BETWEEN FRANCE AND BRITAIN TO RENDER IMMEDIATE MILITARY AID TO TURKEY SHOULD HER INTEGRITY BE THREATENED OR IF IT WAS EXPEDIENT FOR HER TO GO TO THE AID OF A NEIGHBOURING STATE.
Mr. Butler replied: "Britain and France are bound by Article One of the Treaty of mutual assistance with Turkey to give Turkey all aid and assistance in their power in the event of her being involved in hostilities with a European power in consequence of aggression by that against Turkey.
"The form that assistance should take has been and is the subject of consultation between the three Governments. This consultation will take into account the contingency referred to in the second part of the question."
—British Wireless.

ARTILLERY FIRE

BRUSSELS, TO-DAY.
ACCORDING TO A LUXEMBURG DESPATCH SHARP ARTILLERY FIRE OCCURRED YESTERDAY MORNING ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

The French shelled Hammelsberg and Schneeberg, while the Germans shelled the Kirschberg district.

Last night's French war communiqué said there was nothing to report. — Reuter.

London, To-day.
THERE IS UNANIMITY in the British and French press in asking for greater vigour in the prosecution of the war by the Allies.

"The Times" asks whether British diplomacy and war policy is concerned with making the greatest effort. Are we hitting as often as we can and whenever we can? Public opinion, so far from relaxing into complacency, would like to see a more dynamic current running through the Franco-British effort.

FASTER H.K. MAILS A POSSIBILITY

London, To-day.
Capt. Charles Waterhouse, Assistant Postmaster-General, replying to a Commons question yesterday, said that times of transmission of mail to Shanghai had varied within somewhat wide limits.

In the most favourable conditions it took about six weeks via North America, five weeks via Suez and four weeks via Siberia. Homeward times were substantially similar.

Capt. Waterhouse stated it was hoped a better service via Suez would shortly be available.

Asked if advantage had been taken of the fast service of Italian vessels from Trieste to Shanghai, Capt. Waterhouse said the intermittent sailings of the Italian line robbed it of the advantage of its speed for the conveyance of mails. — Reuter.

FASHION NOTE BY THE JAPANESE

Shanghai, To-day.
Comparing the Nine-Power Treaty with the fashions of yesterday, a Japanese Consular spokesman, at a press conference yesterday, said the Treaty was out of date and that Japan was not obliged to adhere to it. — Our Own Correspondent.

COMMUNIST ROUND-UP IN PARIS

Paris, To-day.
Modern wireless equipment sufficient to work six transmitters and two tons of Communist literature were seized by the police in a round-up of Communists yesterday in which 33 arrests were made. — Reuter.

DALADIER SEES LEBRUN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.
The Premier, M. Edouard Daladier, had a long conference with President Albert Lebrun yesterday morning. — Havas.

GERMAN-RUMANIAN RUMOURS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Bucharest, To-day.
It was authoritatively denied here yesterday that any offers to guarantee Rumania have been made by "a certain power" in exchange for political and economic concessions.

The rumour persists, however, that contacts have taken place between Rome and Berlin, on the one hand, and between Berlin and Bucharest, on the other, in the matter of a guarantee of the Rumanian frontiers.

In the meantime, the arrival here yesterday of Dr. Clodius, the Nazi economic expert, is taken as signifying that the Reich is about to unleash another economic and political drive. — Havas.

GERMAN BRUTALITY IN POLAND

London, To-day.
Asked in the Commons for information regarding the many Polish children removed from various parts of Poland under German control, Mr. R. A. Butler, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replied that exact figures were difficult to secure in present circumstances.

Children were, however, included among the Polish population being systematically deported from their homes by the German Government, "and it is clear this process is being carried out with the brutality which we associate with German activity in Poland." — Reuter.

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed



ED REED

"Why don't you come to the door like a gentleman, instead of barking for me!"

Here's Luck

EWO BEER

Tel. 36311

PROBLEM FOR IL DUCE

Suspicion Of A Hitler Double-Cross

REDS TO BUILD A VOROSHILOV LINE

Stockholm, To-day. Martial law has been proclaimed in those parts of Finland already occupied by the Russian troops. This follows closely on the news that the entire Karelian Isthmus and the area along Lake Ladoga is to be fortified with a "Voroshilov Line."—Reuter.

ENDING OF A FEUD IN RUMANIA

London, To-day. The reconciliation between the Rumanian Government and the members of the "Iron Guard" was the subject of comment by "The Times" yesterday.

The news seems to have been received in Germany as an indication of an approaching change in Rumanian foreign policy. This is not justified by the facts, says "The Times."

Although the Iron Guard before the war were certainly in close touch with the Nazis, there is no indication that the clemency now extended is anything more than internal appeasement. Members are only pardoned as individuals and there may be nothing more in it than the ending of a feud and the strengthening of national unity.—Reuter.

OIL FOR GERMANY

Sofia, To-day. The Bulgarian reaches of the Danube are now ice free. Ten thousand tons of Rumanian and Soviet oil for Germany, which was recently held up at Varna, is now being transferred for transport to its destination.—Reuter.

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Directed by FRANK CAPRA - Screen play by SIDNEY HUGHMAN - A COLUMBIA PICTURE

FIRST MEETING OF DICTATORS SINCE THE MUNICH DAYS

London, To-day.

DISCUSSING THE Mussolini-Hitler meeting, the diplomatic correspondent of the BBC said yesterday that the meeting was a logical development of the Nazi trends in policy. Hitler is probably trying:—

1. To exploit Italian support in a drive for peace on his own terms;
2. To reconcile the Axis with the Berlin/Moscow alliance.

The meeting is particularly significant in view of the fact that Mr. Sumner Welles has just returned to Rome. His postponed departure gives Mussolini time, should he so desire, to see him again following the Brenner Pass confab.

Evidently, the Nazis are trying to get their case presented in a more favourable light to Mr. Welles than they themselves were able to manage in Berlin direct.

In any event, the Italian radio has been at pains recently to show that Italy has no intention of dropping her policy of "non-belligerence" for the moment, at any rate. It is generally recognised that Italy would be glad to see an early peace, but Mussolini is too much of a realist to believe that peace can be reached on Hitler's preposterous terms.

NAZI THREATS

Roosevelt's speech on Saturday, in which he stressed the rights of small nations, is also another indication to Hitler about the impossibility of a peace on his terms.

On the other side of the picture, the Nazis are suggesting threats if the peace offensive does not succeed. Nazi hints that Germany may get Italian military support are not taken very seriously, but there is the question of a partnership in South-East Europe.

The Nazis here adopted two lines, apparently. First, they have no doubt tried to persuade Italy that the attachment to Russia is only loose and temporary.

A DOUBLE-CROSS

If that does not convince the Italians very much, the Nazis will then try to persuade Italy that Russian influence in the Balkans can best be nullified by a guarantee to Rumania or any other move to indicate their joint opposition to Russian influence there.

Mussolini must, therefore, make up his mind whether Hitler is trying to double-cross him or Stalin.—Reuter.

Statement in Berlin

Berlin, To-day.

While noting that no details of the Brenner conversations have been obtainable in German, the German news agency states: "It is merely pointed out that the discussion showed the firmness of the common basis of German-Italian co-operation."

"The hope of the Western Powers that Germany and Italy would ever be separated from their common basis must be considered foolish in view of this fact."

The agency adds: "It may be emphasised that at to-day's conversation all the foremost problems of the day were discussed in a spirit of frankness, which is a matter of course."

HITLER'S LAST WORD

"With regard to certain rumours systematically circulated by Britain and France, it is pointed out in Berlin that London and Paris still do not wish to understand that Hitler's

Reichstag speech on October 6, 1939, defined the principles of Germany's attitude in the present conflict.

"This, the last word of the Fuehrer, was brutally rejected by the plutocratic spokesmen of the enemy, who at the same time set up criminal war aims. Since that time the situation between the Western Powers and the Reich they attacked has become completely clear."—Reuter.

MEETING IN A BLIZZARD

Brenner Pass, To-day.

The Hitler-Mussolini talk lasted for 2 hours 50 minutes, while a blizzard raged outside. They then had a quick lunch together after which the two dictators left for their respective capitals in bullet-proof trains.

Mussolini was due to arrive in Rome late last night.—Reuter.

FIRST SINCE MUNICH (SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Rome, To-day.

The Italian press features yesterday's Brenner talks under banner headlines.

"Popolo di Roma" states the conversations are the most important event of the month.

The same newspaper points out it is the first meeting between the Duce and Hitler since the fateful Munich days.

The conversations lasted an hour and a half and were followed by a rapid lunch, after which Hitler and his suite left by train for Berlin.

Five minutes later, at 1.13 p.m., the Italian statesmen returned to Rome.—Havas.

Balkan Bloc Discussed?

Rome, To-day.

The theory that Hitler and Mussolini discussed a German-Russian-Italian Balkan bloc for keeping the Balkans and Danubian Europe definitely out of the war, is gaining ground, and political observers tend to combine this initiative with the peace treaty between Finland and Russia and the firm position of the Scandinavian countries as neutrals.—Reuter.

DISASTER IN DANUBE REGION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

BUDAPEST, TO-DAY.

THE FLOODING OF REGIONS IN THE DANUBE AREA HAS REACHED PROPORTIONS OF DISASTER. The river rose no less than three metres yesterday, compelling the po-

HELSINKI CONFUSION

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Helsinki, To-day.

There is great confusion in Helsinki at the moment, for the hundreds who evacuated during the war have returned en masse and are being joined by almost all of the evacuees from the ceded areas.

The municipal authorities are faced with the problem of feeding a great many more mouths than usual. Little by little, however, the situation will be ironed out, it is hoped.—Havas.

RUMOUR BUSY OVER WELLES VISITS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

ROME, TO-DAY.

MR. SUMNER WELLES WAS RECEIVED IN AUDIENCE BY THE POPE YESTERDAY MORNING.

The audience lasted an hour, and Mr. Welles, who was accompanied by Mr. Myron Taylor, President Roosevelt's personal delegate to the Vatican, was received with the usual elaborate ceremonial.

After the talk with the Pope, Mr. Welles remained closeted with Cardinal Maglione, the Vatican Secretary of State, for half an hour.—Havas.

RUMOUR BUSY

Rome, To-day.

Having seen the King of Italy, Mussolini, Ciano and the Pope, Mr. Sumner Welles was originally expected to return to America yesterday.

This was postponed to to-morrow at the last moment, and not unnaturally this has started rumours associating the Mussolini-Hitler meeting with Mr. Welles' delayed departure. "Peace offensive" rumours are similarly current.—Reuter.

AWARDS TO WORKMEN

LONDON, TO-DAY.

AN INCREASE IN WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. SIR JOHN ANDERSON SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSED TO SUPPLEMENT COMPENSATION IN CASE OF COMPLETE DISABILITY BY 5/- FOR A WIFE AND 3/- FOR EACH CHILD UNDER 15 YEARS OF AGE.

There will also be an increased scale in cases of partial disablement.

It is a temporary scheme for meeting cases of hardship. A Royal Commission is now sitting to consider workmen's compensation.—Reuter.

population in large areas to evacuate immediately.

The Budapest-Trieste and Budapest-Zagreb railways have been disrupted.

The number of victims is not yet known.—Havas.

WAR LOAN SUCCESS

£300,000,000 Issue Over-Subscribed

COLLABORATION OF TWO EMPIRES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

London, To-day.
Discussing the talks between the British Secretary for the Colonies and the French colonial Minister, "The Times" says that the two nations and their empires are now co-operating actively in all domains.

It underlines the importance of this collaboration says that hitherto insoluble problems—such as Syria and Palestine—may now find a solution. Problems too great for one Empire may well be resolved when two collaborate. —Havas.

COLONIAL GOVERNORS TO CONFER

Paris, To-day.

The British and French Colonies' Ministers met again yesterday in Paris and decided that the two Colonial Offices henceforward keep in constant touch and that an organisation should be created both in London and Paris to maintain permanent liaison between the two departments.

There will be conferences from time to time between the Governors of neighbouring British and French colonial territories. This contact will also be established between administrative and specialist officers of the territories.

Regarding the prosecution of the war, in the economic field the Ministers agreed to examine the possibility of framing and co-ordinating a programme of production and marketing of various colonial products with the object of making the fullest possible use of their joint resources. French and British experts are meeting very shortly for this purpose. — Reuter.

RETURN TO MOSCOW

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

HELSINKI, TO-DAY.
FINNISH DELEGATES, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF M. PASSIKIVI, AGAIN LEFT FOR MOSCOW YESTERDAY MORNING.

The forthcoming negotiations will deal with the demarcation of the new frontier, establishment of diplomatic relations and a settlement of all economic questions.

Ratification of the Soviet-Finnish peace treaty takes place to-morrow. — Havas.

SVINHUFUD SEES POPE

Rome, To-day.
M. Svinhufud, the Finnish ex-Premier, was received in audience by the Pope yesterday morning. — Reuter.

SIR JOHN SIMON AND FUTURE FINANCING

London, To-day.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE Exchequer, Sir John Simon, announced yesterday afternoon that the £300,000,000 3% war loan floated last week has been oversubscribed. Small investors will receive all of the loan for which they applied and large investors will receive about four-fifths.

Sir John said that it was a very satisfactory beginning to the series of loans which must be floated to carry on the war. He paid a tribute to the support which it had received from all classes and also to the Government's intention of stabilising the interest rates.

Asked whether those who withheld their application for this loan in the hope of getting better terms in the future were going to be disappointed, Sir John said that his object was to lay down that 3% was a proper amount to which they should hold and to discourage any idea that the Government will be willing to contemplate more favourable terms hereafter.

FUTURE ISSUES

Referring to the issues of Government securities in the future, Sir John Simon said the policy of the Government was to aim at stability of interest rates and to secure that the yield offered on future loans, whatever the type, should, after making due allowance for such factors as the periods of loans, be in agreement with the level of interest rates established by the terms of the recent two per cent. Conversion Loan and the three per cent. Loan just issued.

In these circumstances he welcomed the action yesterday by the Committee of the London Stock Exchange in announcing a revised list of minimum prices for Government securities.

MORE LATER ON

The new minima bore a closer relationship between existing prices and those fixed on the outbreak of war and might be taken as evidence of the desire on the part of the authorities concerned to co-operate in the policy of maintaining interest rates at the present level.

Sir John Simon added that larger applicants had been allotted about 80 per cent.

He concluded: "I shall want some more later on." — Reuter.

PENSIONS INCREASED

London, To-day.

In connection with pensions for the parents of unmarried men killed in the war, the Minister of Pensions said yesterday that in future pensions will be paid without enquiry as to whether or not the person concerned can support himself, i.e., there will be no Means Test.

The minimum will be increased from 2/- to 5/- a week and the present maximum from 12/6 for two parents to 17/-6 in some cases. The new scale will be put into operation at once. — Reuter.

FOREIGN PLANES OVER SWITZERLAND

Berne, To-day.

Swiss anti-aircraft guns opened up and Swiss fighters went up yesterday when "foreign planes" violated Switzerland's neutrality. One plane appeared over Basle and another flew near Zurich at a great height. Both planes made off over the frontier. — Reuter.

STATEMENT ON SCAPA FLOW RAID

London, To-day.

The Prime Minister announced in the House of Commons yesterday that he will deal with the attack on Scapa Flow in his war statement to-day. — Reuter.

LABOUR DEMAND FOR A WORLD COMMISSION

London, To-day.

A WORLD PEACE COMMISSION was suggested at question time in the House of Commons yesterday by Mr. Arthur Woodburn (Labour, Clackmannan).

Mr. Woodburn asked the Prime Minister whether the Government was prepared to set up a League commission at some suitable neutral place to provide a new opportunity for public investigation of all responsible for conditions of a permanent world peace and for judicial examination of the chief economic, territorial and racial problems made for war.

The commission, he suggested, might discover whether there were principles for the peaceful settlement of international disputes which were generally accepted by all nations.

Mr. R. A. Butler, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply, said Mr. Woodburn's ultimate aims were no doubt widely desired, but the Foreign Secretary was not convinced that the precise method he proposed would be the best under the circumstances. — Reuter.

NEW RECORD FOR THE MILE

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

New York, To-day.

Charles Fenske, of Wisconsin, the noted American runner yesterday broke the world's indoor record for the three-quarter mile run by covering the distance in 2 mins. 59.7 secs.

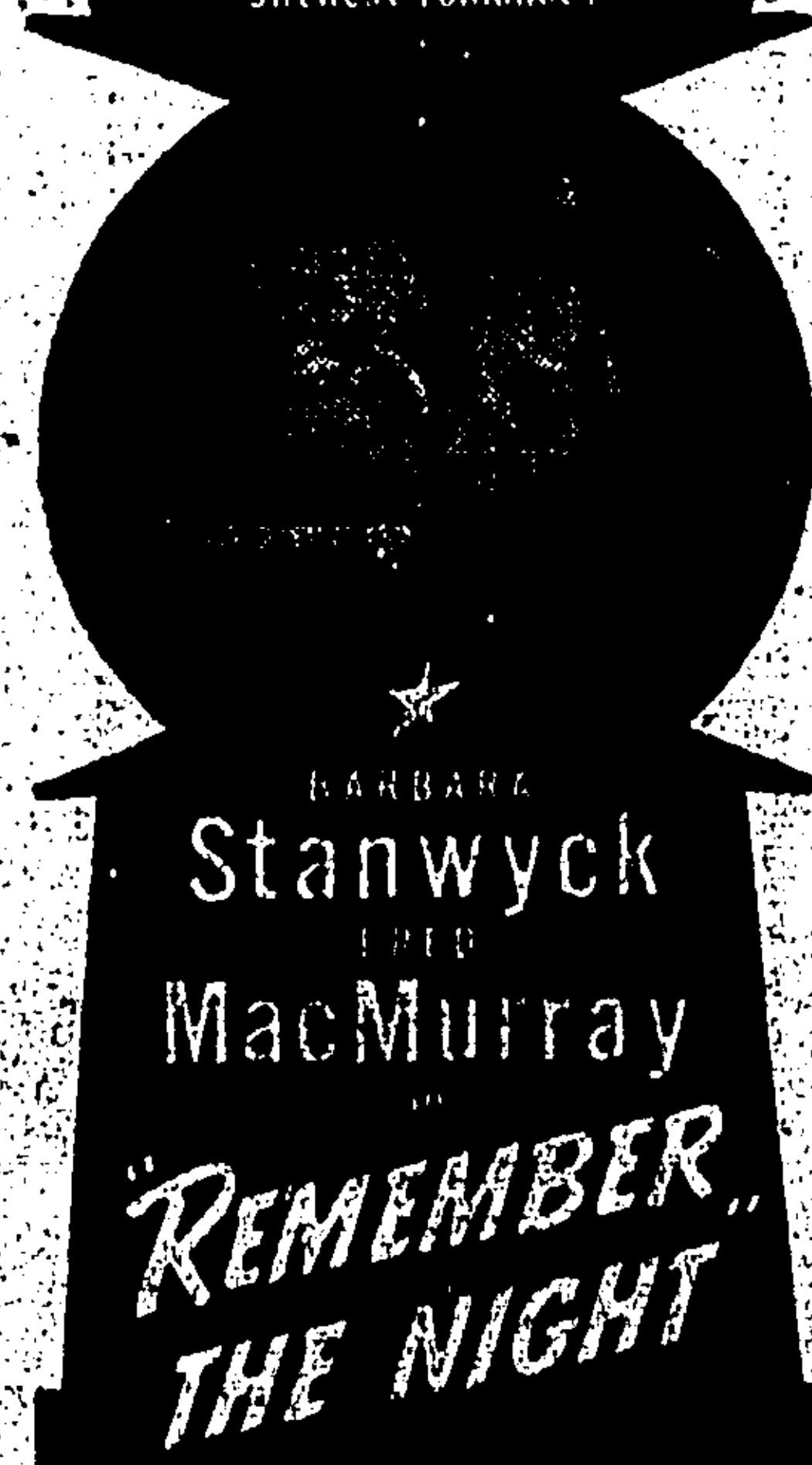
It will be of interest to recall that Fenske won the special mile invitation race at Princeton, New Jersey, on June 17, 1939, in 4 minutes 11 seconds. Glenn Cunningham was second, Archie San Romani third, Blaine Rideout fourth and Sidney Wooderson last. Fenske was conceded only an outside chance to win the race. — Havas.

GRACIE FIELDS MARRIED

Hollywood, To-day.

Gracie Fields and Monty Banks, the film director, were married here yesterday. — Reuter.

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MIRROR OF WORLD OPINION

THE ANTI-WAR VOTE

REVOLUTIONARY

Whatever the French may choose to do, there are excellent reasons for not trying to suppress the British Communist party. Elections like Silvertown and Stretford are not the least. And the same thing holds of the Fascists. Give them rope, let them appeal with all their ability to the electorate; the result is quite safe. The publicity value of such defeats is immense. When the ablest figure in British Communism, standing in a wholly working-class constituency, spending lavishly on all electioneering aids, cannot raise more than 988 votes in a poll of over 15,000, even Moscow must sit up and take notice. The still more derisory 151 votes of the Fascist may help to bring home to Berlin what a miserable following Sir Oswald Mosley can muster. Some people grumble that we tolerate these "freak" by-elections in the war. They are a nuisance to the older parties and as the register grows staler and the removals, enlistments, and shifts of population greater they will become an even bigger nuisance. But they are none the less a valuable safety-valve and barometer of the state of public opinion. The first contested by-election was at Clackmannan and East-Stirling in October; a pure pacifist polled against Labour 2 1/4 per cent of the electorate. The second was at Stretford, where, against a Conservative, an I.L.P. pacifist polled nearly 6 per cent and a Communist only 2 per cent. In the third by-election, Central Southwark, against Labour a "stop the war" man polled 4 1/2 per cent and an eccentric 4 per cent. In Silvertown the Communist and Fascist together can raise only a little more than 2 1/2 per cent. These are significant figures which show what a tiny fraction of the population is ready to vote against the war and, particularly, how very few are ready to vote Communist. Indeed, the experience is that the presence of the Communist is the best means of whipping up a good vote on the other side.—"Manchester Guardians."

Politically change is in the air. The House of Commons, with its strong Conservative majority, has suddenly ceased to be ruled by party feeling. It has come to life as an active trustee of the nation, neither sparing criticism of what is faulty nor withholding support from what is good. The whole-some innovation by which selected members of the Labour Opposition have independent access to Government Departments and are entitled to receive confidential information, strengthens public confidence that nothing is being done or will be done of which the nation's elected representatives would not approve.

More important still is the change in political thought about the future. Neither the crushing of Poland by Germany and Russia, nor naval losses like the sinking of the aircraft carrier Courageous, nor uncertainty about the course the war may take has affected the deepening and widening conviction that peace, when it comes, must bring fundamental international change.

Some of the ablest British, French, and German minds are already at work on this problem which, in essence, transcends any statement of "war aims" and bears upon the future of civilization itself. So we are not, as an American preacher once said, "stumbling backward into the future with our eyes on the past." We are looking forward into the future with our backs turned to the past, save in so far as the lessons of the past may teach us what to avoid.

And this, in itself, is an almost revolutionary change. — H. Wickham Steed.

FENCING WITH TREATIES

If the United States continues its "oppression" of Japan, the Japanese Government may abrogate the Nine-Power Treaty. This possibility was voiced in a session of the Japanese Parliament the other day. Americans will take note of it.

But they will ask by what stretch of language their increasing reluctance to abet Japanese oppression of China can be described as oppression of Japan. Abrogation of the Nine-Power Treaty is obviously suggested as a possible reprisal by Japan for the "United States" abrogation of the American-Japanese trade treaty of 1911. This legal act by the United States — an act which has not yet resulted even in removing Japan from the list of most-favoured nations — is doubtless the "oppression" to which the Japanese Government's spokesmen obviously refer. Abrogation by Japan of the Nine-Power Treaty would also be legal. What Americans are objecting to is the illegal abrogation of that treaty which has occurred in Japan's violation of it.

The possibility of abrogation to-day contains chiefly a promise of clarification. Of course it does suggest that American rights and safety in China might be further jeopardized by acts of the Japanese military, just as Japanese sources of supplies might actually be closed or curtailed through economic acts by the United States, now that the 1911 treaty is off the books. But this type of reprisal and counter reprisal is not made more or less likely by the mere existence of a treaty which one party has not, and in effect says it will not honour in practice. We are looking on at a game of diplomatic fencing, in which the adversaries thrust and parry with parchment scrolls. — "Christian Science Monitor."

NATIVE POPULATIONS

"Knowledge of the Nazi war aims should do much to deter the gentlemen who are urging the Allies to call off the war and to make whatever temporary peace is possible with the German war lords. Not a few of these have suggested a transfer to the Reich of the former Colonies as being the most suitable peace offering."

"It is significant of the subtlety of Nazi propaganda that a number of people should have allowed themselves to be bamboozled into a belief that the Treaty of Versailles was an instrument of injustice, and that the Germans had been deliberately misled into the Armistice on the strength of the Fourteen Points. Those who advocate a transfer of Colonial populations in yet another attempt to appease Germany would do well to consider the injustice they do to Colonial peoples, whose opinion as expressed in African papers is decidedly against German colonial administration."

"With a knowledge of the conduct of the present Nazi leaders, confirmed often by personal experience of German misrule in the former Colonies, it is not surprising that the Native populations should view with profound anxiety the campaign for a transfer of Colonial territories." — "African Morning Post."

MAXIMUM POWER

We should think of nothing, in the first place, but how to bring our maximum power to bear upon the enemy without avoidable delay. We have to meet the enemy's total organisation by our own. We should subordinate everything to that truth. The whole sequel would have been better—the whole world would have been happier to-day—had we succeeded in halving the duration of the last conflict by the great Gallipoli plan.—J. L. Garvin.

WEYGAND'S ARMY READY

IMPORTS OF FOOD UNDER LICENCE

London, To-day.
The Ministry of Food has decided to take control of imported foodstuffs generally, and a general Order will be published on Thursday prohibiting imports of all foodstuffs, including feeding-stuffs for animals, except under licence.

Only exceptions are wines and spirits, fresh and cured fish and live animals.

The Order will apply to all foodstuffs not already subject to licence which were despatched after March 20 and arrive in Great Britain after March 27.

Open general licences will be issued permitting, until further notice, the importation without separate licences of consignments of a number of classes of foodstuffs, including bananas, fresh fruits, jams, chutney, curry-powder and shellfish.—Reuter.

DEALINGS IN NEW LOAN

LONDON, TO-DAY.
BUSINESS ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE YESTERDAY WAS RESTRICTED BY THE UNCERTAINTY CONCERNING THE DIPLOMATIC MOVES IN EUROPE AND THE SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FIXING OF NEW MINIMUM PRICES FOR GILT-EDGED SECURITIES.

Most sections eased but offerings were only moderate.

Indian bonds and gold-mining issues were depressed on unconfirmed reports of a Mysore tax on the proceeds of gold sales.

Dealings started in the new War Loan at par to 1/4 discount and the loan closed at 3/8 discount.

Wall Street was easy.—Reuter.

TWO MORE SHIPS LOST

LONDON, TO-DAY.
TWO MORE SHIPS, IT IS ANNOUNCED, HAVE BEEN LOST, ONE OF THEM AN ITALIAN VESSEL.

The Newcastle steamer Tiberton (5,225 tons) is a month overdue and is believed to have been lost with all hands.

The Italian collier Tyna Primo (4,853 tons) broke in two following an explosion off the south-east coast yesterday. Thirty-six of the crew were saved; one was drowned.—Reuter.

NEW INDIA BOARD

New Delhi, To-day.
On April 1, the Government of India will establish a Board of Scientific Industrial Research, which will advise the Government about the lines on which such research should be conducted to ensure the development of Indian industry.

Particular attention will be paid to the effect of war conditions.—Reuter.

RUBBER SHIPMENTS

Singapore, To-day.
Rubber shipped from non-Empire countries does not come under the new exchange control and may be sold for free sterling provided it is not transhipped.

If the shipment is to Canada via listed countries the consignee must obtain the Canadian control's permission for payment in free sterling.—Reuter.

FRENCH TROOPS IN THE LEVANT

DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT the French-mandated territory of Syria and Lebanon are troops awaiting orders to move.

Brown-skinned Algerians, Tunisians and Moroccans; black Senegalese; Malgaches from Madagascar; Annamites from Indo-China; units of the Foreign Legion; Air Force units, and mechanised troops from France, all are concentrated here.

By courtesy of the French military authorities I have been privileged to catch a few quick but instructive glimpses of this redoubtable fighting force in the course of an 800-mile tour of Syria and Lebanon, writes a Beyrest Correspondent.

Figures are taboo here. I am able to state, however, that what I saw was impressive—and there was much of it. Since September last French Colonial troops and units from France have been sent here to build up, under the supervision of Gen. Weygand, the Army of the East, and to strengthen the permanent army of the Levant established in the mandated territories after the last war.

GREAT ACTIVITY

During the past few weeks supplies of extra materials and mechanical spare parts to equip on the spot any additional troops suddenly despatched to the Near East have diminished to a mere trickle.

It is impossible to stroll through sections of the various towns without surprisingly running into something military; rows of trucks lined up in the shadow of the palm trees or beside ancient walls; rows of tanks squatting under sheds; cannon of various calibres, and tractors and anti-tank guns casually concealed in old stables or courtyards.

While waiting for orders from the Supreme Command the officers are keeping their men in training. In the stand dunes around Beyrouth, Moroccan sharpshooters puncture their targets every afternoon, while the Senegalese practise mounting and unmounting machine-guns.

Recently, a whole division held manoeuvres in the region of Damascus, while over Beyrouth the recently reassembled pursuit planes went through their paces. With the rainy season almost over, and the weather mostly clear, the population is in the process of adjusting itself to the early morning booming of the anti-aircraft guns at practice.

BRITISH CONCENTRATIONS

In Syria, and on the island of Cyprus, the British have been concentrating forces from the Empire

along lines parallel to the French, with perhaps more emphasis on aviation.

Australians and New Zealanders, together with the Sikhs, who are renowned as mountain fighters, are in Egypt. To the north, the Turkish friends of France and Britain have soldiers who are famous for their endurance and stubbornness as fighters.

If the British, the French and the Turkish high commands so decide, their combined forces in the Near East and Asia Minor will get together and confront the enemy—the Germans and the Russians—with a formidable front. So far, of course, no decision has been reached. The Allies and Turkey seem content to wait and see—to see what happens in Finland and to see if the blockade leaks in the Balkans can be stopped. So far the only enemy is Germany, and Germany is out of reach of the Army of the East.

Russia may become an enemy, too. But this is for London, Paris and Ankara and Moscow to decide.

ACT OF AN ISOLATED FANATIC

London, To-day.

When Lord Zetland, Secretary for India and Burmah, took his seat in the House of Lords yesterday, Lord Snell, leader of the Labour Opposition, expressed their relief and thankfulness at his escape from death last week.

In reply, Lord Zetland said that the act of an isolated fanatic would not have the smallest influence in any way on the judgment of the Government on affairs in India.

From his personal point of view, his affection and admiration for things India and the Indian peoples were far too deeply laid to be in any way jeopardised by something which has no bearing on the general relations between the peoples of these two countries.—Reuter.

PUPPETS LEAVE FOR NANKING

Peiping, To-day.

Wang Keh-min, head of the Peiping "provisional government" and other delegates left for Nanking yesterday morning to attend the central political conference which opens on Wednesday, at which the "central government of China" is expected to be finally decided.

Those accompanying Wang were four other Peiping "government" delegates, two delegates from the Japanese-controlled Mongolian Government, and Major-General Morioka, director of the North China Liaison office of the China Affairs Board, who recently succeeded Lt.-Gen. Kita.

It is learned from provisional government circles that the new government organisation will closely follow that of the Chungking Central Government which it is intended to supplant.—Reuter.

NO DATE SET

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Shanghai, To-day.

Invitations and passes were extended yesterday to foreign correspondents in Shanghai to attend the central political council meeting in Nanking and the inauguration of the Wang, Ching-wei government, though no fixed date has been set for either solemnity.

Some 20 journalists will leave for Nanking by special train this morning.—Havas.

SPARED SIX WAR MONTHS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Brussels, To-day.

M. Spaak, Belgian Foreign Minister, told a meeting of Socialist and Trade Union organizations yesterday that the Government's policy has spared them six months of war and he hoped it would be able to keep them out of war entirely.

He gave a resume of the problems facing the labouring man and told his audience of the measures taken by the Government.

M. Spaak, who is a Socialist, criticised the activity of the Belgian Communists and praised the recent law restricting their propaganda.—Havas.

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INEXPENSIVE SATISFYING

Owing to the war conditions in Europe, a number of British Houses in the East are restricting members of their Staffs from visiting England for their leave, except under special circumstances.

Consequently it is anticipated that America, Australia and New Zealand will be countries in which their future leave will be spent.

With regard to Australia; much literature is issued relating to hotels, fishing, all forms of sport and various points of interest, and here are some essential details that would be required by married couples and families or for single men and women.

Fares: — First-class return Hong Kong/Sydney £95.0.0.

Second-class return Hong Kong/Sydney £62.0.0.

Accommodation: — Assuming that headquarters are made at Sydney, and there are far more Tourist attractions in and around Sydney than Victoria:

At the principal hotels rooms can be obtained—minimum 10/6d. up to 20/- per day and at more moderate hotels from 6/6d. to 12/6d. per day. Full tariff would be from 25/- and 16/- per day.

There are numerous hotels at sea-side resorts and the rates range from about 10/- daily, inclusive. Also excellent hotels offer accommodation for £4.4.0 weekly, inclusive or £5.5.0 for room with bath.

Tariffs at Boarding Houses either in or around the City or at the Seaside, range from £3.3.0 to £4.4.0 and £5.5.- per week.

Beaches around Sydney are situated merely a matter of minutes from the heart of the City.

Service Flats. In the residential area of the City there are hundreds of furnished or Service Flats to accommodate one person and comprise a bed-sitting room, bath and kitchen and the rental would be approximately £3.3.0. per week. There are also larger flats which would accommodate a man, his wife, children and amah, which would be more in the vicinity of four or five guineas per week. Whilst it would be possible to obtain service for meals, etc., the usual procedure is that meals are taken outside the flats and the services of a housemaid could be obtained at extra cost.

Furnished cottages are available, the rents depending upon the Season, size, location, etc. but would be approximately four, five, six or seven guineas per week. A house with two bedrooms, outside sleeping verandahs, etc. would be about £4.4.0.

Chinese Amahs. A family visiting Australia is strongly recommended to take a Chinese amah with them as it is very often difficult to get help. The Customs formalities are simple and for those residing in the East it is only necessary to sign a form.

Motor Cars. There is no difficulty in landing your own motor car in Australia. A bond has to be signed with the Customs that the car will only be for personal use and will be taken out of Australia when leaving, the car is then landed without further trouble.

There are numerous Tourist attrac-

BRITISH FASCISTS EXPELLED

The British Union have expelled its two members sentenced at Exmouth for infringements of defence regulations.

This statement was issued by the Union—

"For a long period before the war we expelled any member who was known to feel or behave like a German or member of any foreign nationality. The membership of two men involved in a recent case has been terminated."

Claude Felix Pierre Duvivier, of Woodbury, and William Alexander Crowle, of Devonport, each got six months' gaol.

tions in and around Sydney and throughout New South Wales in the way of Big Game Fishing, Shooting, Yachting, Racing and, in fact, practically every known sport, the principal of which is, perhaps, swimming or surfing on the excellent beaches in and around Sydney. For those desirous of participating in Alpine Sports, Kosciusko is within easy reach of Sydney and the season commences early in May and continues right through to October. The Winter Season in Australia is June, July and August, and the best falls of snow are usually round that time.

No snow actually falls in Sydney. A vacation of, say—four months, could easily be spent in Sydney alone, but a visit to New Zealand should be included in the Tour and the following inclusive tours of New Zealand will give an idea as to cost:—

12 days, North and South Island	£33. 5.0
18 days, North and South Island	43.10.0
30 days, North and South Island	73. 0.0

The steamer fares between Sydney and New Zealand range as follows:—

First-class return	£28.10.0
Second-class return	24.10.0

With the exception of A-0. Line fares, all prices given above are in Australian Currency (£1 England= 25/- Aust.).

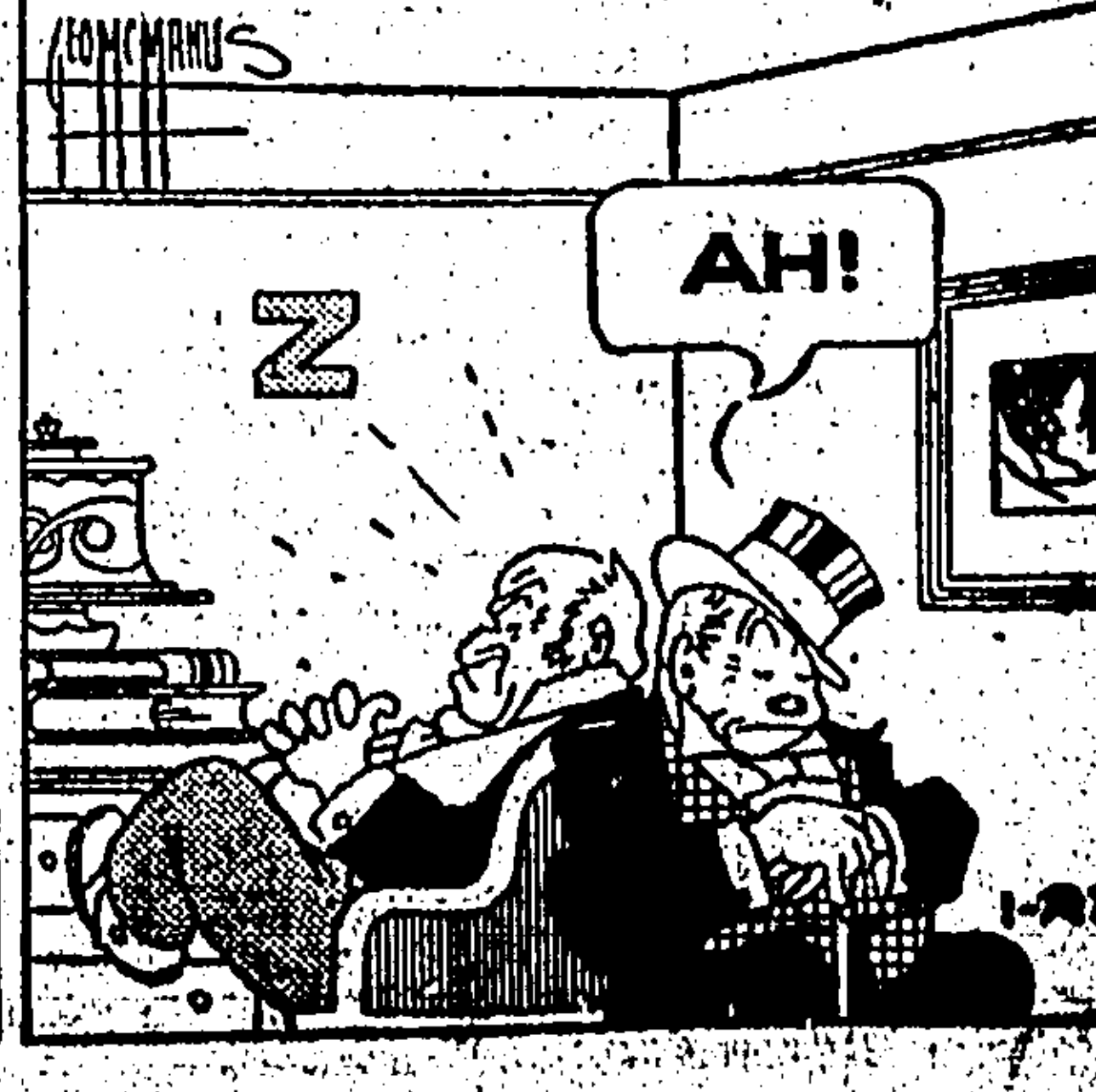
WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that the anticyclone has weakened considerably and is moving eastward. Pressure is highest over Korea, and is relatively low over Indo-China.

Wong Fung-ping, 9-year-old girl, was treated at the Queen Mary Hospital with injuries to her head received when she was knocked down by a motorcar in Queen's Road East yesterday.

By George McManus

Bringing Up Father



FORGED BANKNOTES SENTENCE

Chan Ching-hung was sentenced this morning to nine months' hard labour by the Chief Justice, Sir Atholl MacGregor, at the Supreme Court when he was found guilty of two charges of uttering forged five dollar notes of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank and with possession of a forged bank note.

The jury was composed of Messrs. J. J. Edgar (foreman), C. E. Rathsam, S. Hansch, J. L. Adams, E. J. T. Wong, A. J. Mauricio and C. Bennett.

Mr. E. H. Williams, who prosecuted, said that accused went to shop in Ewo Street and tendered a five-dollar note for the purchase of a packet of cigarettes worth 10 cents. The foki took the note and gave accused \$4.90 change. Later accused again came to the shop for the same purchase and again tendered a five dollar note. This time he was served by the accountant who refused the note as it did not look quite good. Accused then gave a dollar note, took the cigarettes and the change. The accused was about to leave the shop when the accountant remarked to the foki about the bad note. The foki recognised accused as the man who had bought cigarettes from him earlier. He went to the drawer and took out the five dollar note. The note was a forgery. Accused ran out of the shop and was chased by the two men. He was about 10 shops away when he boarded a tram. The foki followed and also boarded the tram. He caught hold of accused who attempted to get rid of the five dollar note.

He was taken to the Police station. Before he was charged he was given an opportunity by the police to prove his respectability and gave the name of a friend but on enquiries it was found that the friend had left the address given more than a year ago and that he (accused), had not been seen at the address since that day.

GERMAN VERSION OF TALKS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

BERLIN, TO-DAY.

"COME WHAT MAY, WE STAND TOGETHER." THAT — ACCORDING TO BERLIN CIRCLES—WAS THE KEYNOTE OF THE HITLER-MUSSOLINI CONFERENCE.

According to these same sources, the two Dictators agreed that the war could end only in the creation of a New Order in Europe. They reached a conclusion that the future peace must be comprehensive and embracing and that the war, if possible, should be localised to the Western Front. The Balkans must be kept free from the menace of conflict.

Basically, however, these same quarters assert, the Brenner Pass talks were mainly to review the present state of affairs and "a symbolic handshake."—Havas.

GENERAL HUNTER-WESTON KILLED IN FALL

London, To-day.

Lt-Gen. Sir Aylmer Hunter-Weston was killed instantaneously when he fell yesterday from a 50-foot turret at his house at West Kilbride, which he was in the habit of climbing for exercise and to see the Firth of Clyde.

Lt-Gen. Hunter-Weston was 70. He saw service in many parts of the world, including with the B.E.F. in 1914 and at the Dardanelles.—Reuter.

C.M.S. WORKER DIES IN ENGLAND

London, To-day.

The death has occurred at Guildford of Mr. Hugh Stowell Phillips, a Church Missionary Society missionary of Kienning.—Reuter.

INDIA NOT READY FOR FIGHT NOW

Ramgarh, To-day.

"I shall go to the Viceroy fifty times if necessary," declared Mr. Gandhi at yesterday's meeting of the subjects committee of the Indian National Congress.

Mr. Gandhi was replying to speakers who criticised his "readiness to compromise with Britain" on India's future.

After offering to "start the fight" in a month if Congressmen would eradicate the "lack of discipline and the atmosphere of violence," Mr. Gandhi added: "I don't find anything to suggest that we are ready for a fight immediately."

Mr. Gandhi was speaking after the committee, by an overwhelming majority, adopted a resolution demanding complete independence for India and rejecting Dominion status as a solution.—Reuter.

BLACK-OUT OFFENDERS FINED

Mrs. S. M. Ho, of No. 7, Castle Road, was summoned before Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C., at the Central Magistracy this morning, for breach of the "black out" Regulations.

Traffic Inspector F. J. Clarke said that on the night of March 5, defendant's car was travelling with the side lights not covered, and the head lights were being used. Though covered, they were much too bright.

Mr. F. Zimmern pleaded guilty on behalf of Mrs. Ho.

A fine of \$25 was imposed.

Three other Chinese were fined \$30 for a similar offence, while another five were fined \$25.

A truck driver was fined \$10 for the same offence.

It was stated that some 250,000 leaflets were posted all over the Colony concerning the regulations for the "black out."

TREE VANDAL SENTENCED

Chau Yeung, 18, unemployed, was brought before Mr. T. J. Houston at the Central Magistracy this morning charged with stealing a wild tree valued at \$15 on the hillside above Bowen Road yesterday.

Defendant was sentenced to one month's hard labour, and is to be expelled at the expiration of his sentence.

Six weeks' hard labour was imposed on Kwan Hau, 31, unemployed, for larceny of 31 catties of tree wood in Stubbs Road yesterday. Sergeant Reddish conducted the prosecution.

DANGEROUS BLASTING

Wong Chau, foreman of the Tak Hing Contractors, was fined \$150 by Mr. E. Himsworth at Kowloon Magistracy this morning.

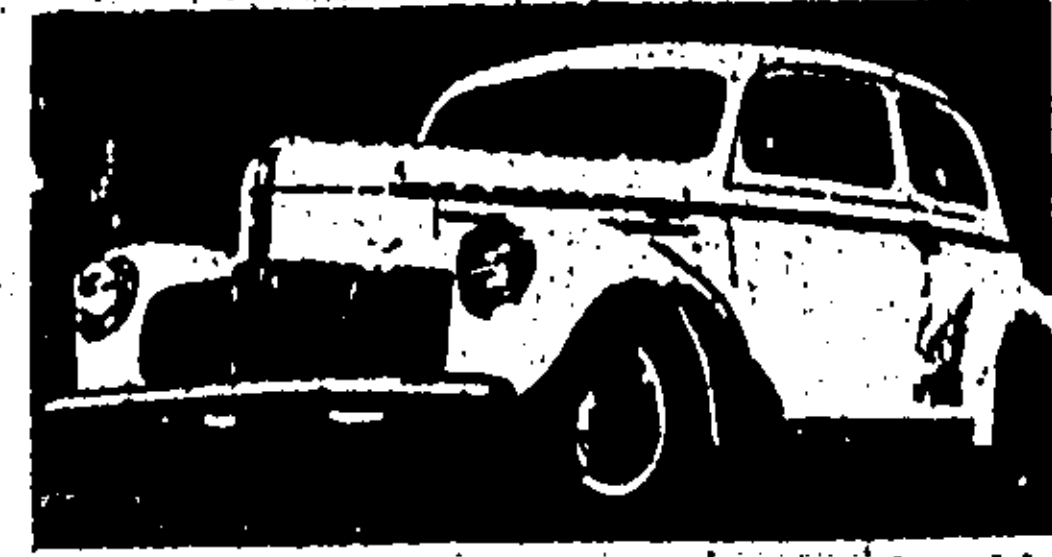
Wong was supervising blasting operations 500 feet from the junction of Argyle Street and Prince Edward Road, during which two 15-lb. pieces of stone hit a coolie walking in the road and damaged a bus.

Convicted for stealing jewellery and money, Wong Mei-kwan, 28, married woman, was this morning placed on a \$50 bond to be of good behaviour for one year and ordered to pay \$80, as compensation, or six weeks' hard labour by Mr. E. Himsworth at Kowloon. Wong was accused of having stolen, on two occasions, jewellery and money, amounting to \$170, from a newly returned American-born Chinese woman, who was residing at the same boarding house with accused. Ninety dollars worth of jewellery was recovered.

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BARGAINS IN WATERPROOFS

"COMORICE" WATERPROOFS\$ 8.75 ea.

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NEXT SAILINGS FROM HONG KONG THE FOURTH WEEK
IN MARCH (Omitting Honolulu)

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Fast through trains direct from ship's side at Vancouver — or stop-over at Beautiful Victoria thence by comfortable, fast B.C. Coast Services to Vancouver—In Canada's Evergreen Playground — See the Majestic Canadian Rockies — Lake Louise, Banff. Stop-overs if you wish. No extra rail fare in Canada for Drawing room or Compartment occupied by one person.

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About the
Fourth Week
in March

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POST OFFICE

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

Japan	March 19.
Shanghai	March 19.
Shanghai and Amoy	March 19.
Japan	March 19.
Canton	March 19.
Air Mail by "Air France Direct Service"—Paris date,	March 20.
13th March	March 20.
Shanghai and Amoy	March 20.
Fernosa, Amoy and Swatow	March 20.
Manila	March 20.
Bangkok and Saigon	March 20.
Straits	March 20.
Air Mail by "Imperial Airways Direct Service"—London date,	March 21.
13th March	March 21.
Japan and Shanghai	March 21.
Amoy	March 21.
Saigon	March 21.
Australia and Manila	March 21.
Canton	March 22.
Haiphong, Hoihow and Fort Bayard	March 22.
Canton	March 22.
Sandakan	March 22.
U.S.A., Honolulu, and Japan (San Francisco date, 14th Feb.)	March 22.
Sandakan	March 22.
Air Mail by "Pan American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 12th March	March 23.
Shanghai	March 23.

OUTWARD MAILS

Registered and Parcel Mails are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m., registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the previous day.

For	Per	Date and Time.
TUESDAY		
Fort Bayard and Hoihow		Mar. 19, 12.30 p.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa		Mar. 19, 2.30 p.m.
Air Mail for "Imperial Airways Direct Service"—due London, 27th March.	K.P.O.	
	Reg.,	Mar. 19, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Mar. 19, 5.30 p.m.
	G.P.O.	
	Reg.,	Mar. 19, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Mar. 19, 7.00 p.m.
Air Mail for Malaya, Java and Australia by "Imperial Airways Direct Service"—due Sydney, 25th March.	K.P.O.	
	Reg.,	Mar. 19, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Mar. 19, 5.30 p.m.
	G.P.O.	
	Reg.,	Mar. 19, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Mar. 19, 7.00 p.m.
		Mar. 19, 7.00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY		
Shanghai		Mar. 20, 8.30 a.m.
Batavia and Sourabaya		Mar. 20, 10.30 a.m.
Canton		Wednesday, March 20.
Straits and Calcutta	Par.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 11.00 a.m.
	Ord.,	Wed., Mar. 20, Noon.
		Wed., Mar. 20, 2.00 p.m.
Haiphong	K.P.O.	
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa, Egypt and Europe via Suez and London Parcels—due London, 28th April.	Par.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 3.00 p.m.
	Reg.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 5.30 p.m.
	G.P.O.	
	Par.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 3.00 p.m.
	Reg.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 7.00 p.m.
	K.P.O.	
Air Mail for Indo-China, Iran, and France (Paris and Northern Provinces only) by the "Air France Airways Direct Service"—due Paris 28th March.	Reg.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 5.30 p.m.
	G.P.O.	
	Reg.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 5.00 p.m.
	Ord.,	Wed., Mar. 20, 7.00 p.m.
		Mar. 20, 7.00 p.m.
THURSDAY		
Shanghai		Thur., Mar. 21, 7.15 a.m.
Canton		Thur., Mar. 21, 2.30 p.m.
Amoy		Thur., Mar. 21, 2.30 p.m.
Swatow and Shanghai		Thur., Mar. 21, 2.30 p.m.
Japan		Thur., Mar. 21, 7.00 p.m.

* Subscribed correspondence only.

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FIRST HALF OF APRIL, 1940.

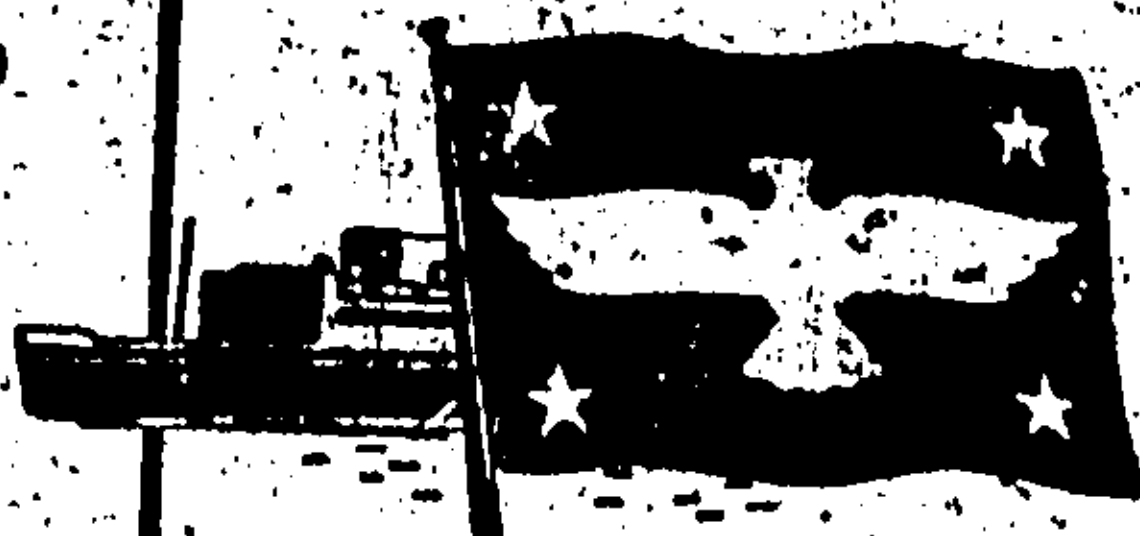
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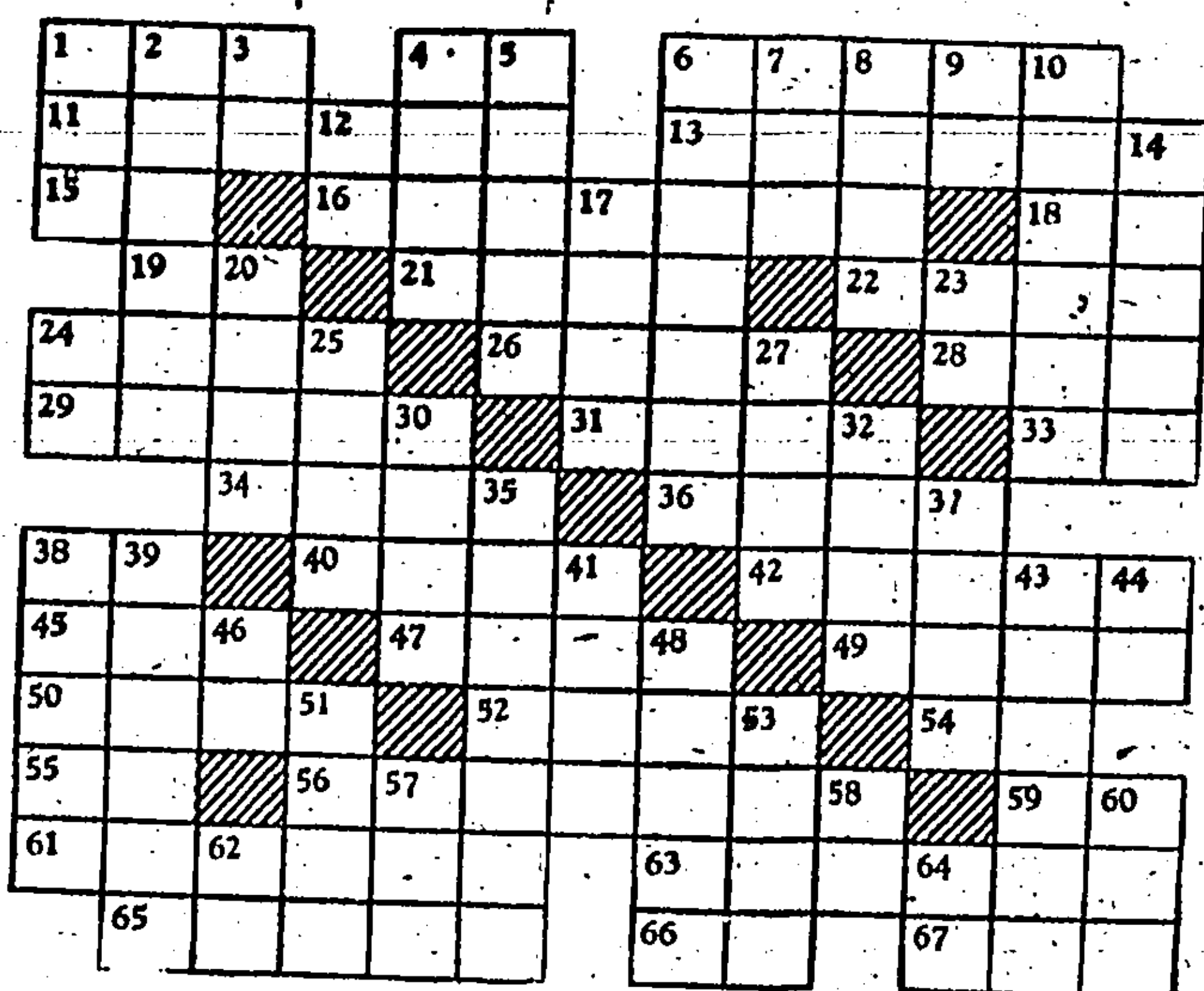
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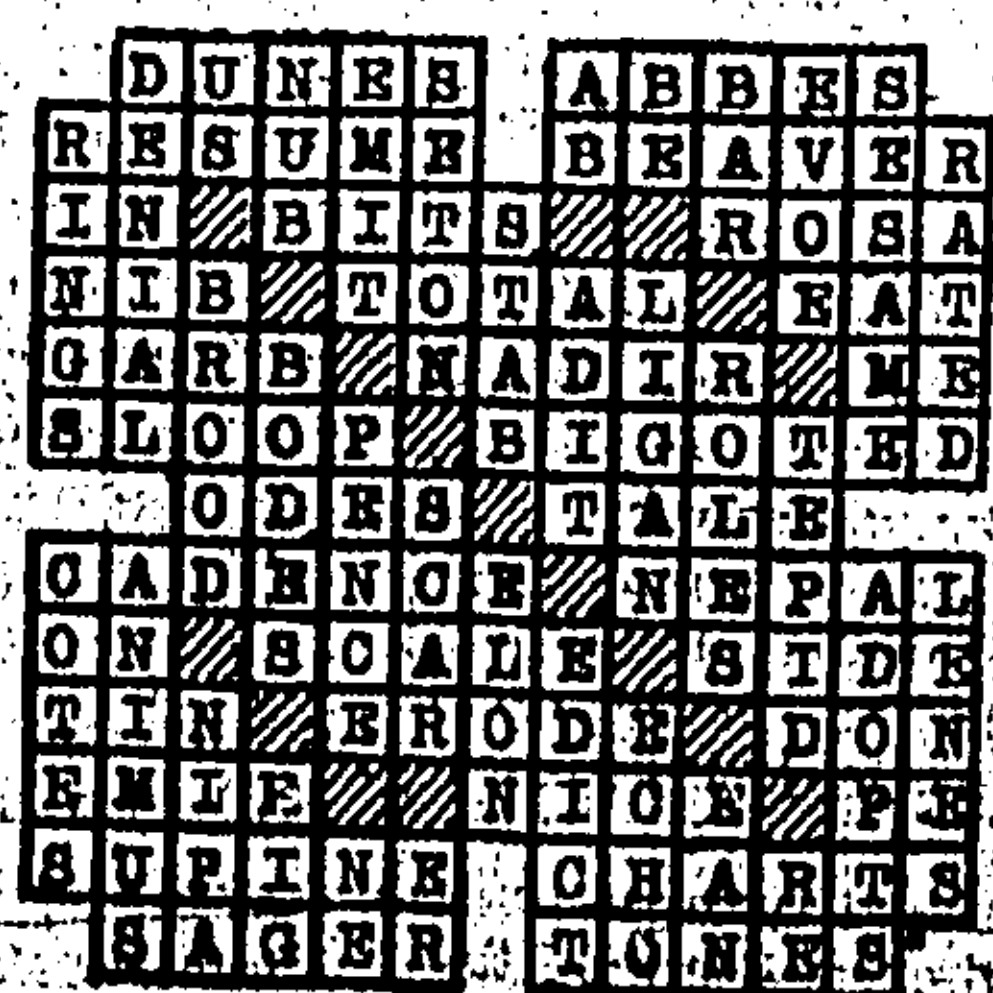
HORIZONTAL

- 1 Constellation
- 4 Part of "to be"
- 6 Medal
- 11 Greek clasp
- 13 Interstice
- 15 Toward
- 16 Punishment
- 18 Article
- 19 Note of scale
- 21 Rail
- 22 To cloy
- 24 Remainder
- 26 To lease
- 28 Babylonian god
- 29 Bay window
- 31 Tax
- 33 Note of scale
- 34 Levantine ship
- 36 Heroic events
- 38 Pronoun
- 40 To hop
- 42 Roman woman's garment
- 45 Palm leaf (variant)
- 47 One affecting superiority
- 49 Speck
- 50 Sailors

VERTICAL

- 1 Sternward
- 2 One in outbreak
- 3 Hebrew month
- 4 Beverages
- 5 Estate
- 6 To make even
- 7 Craft
- 8 Algerian rulers
- 9 Colloquial prizefight
- 10 Click beetle
- 12 Aloft
- 14 To anoint
- 17 War god
- 20 Egyptian goddess
- 23 Hebrew month
- 24 Artificial language
- 25 River duck
- 27 Caps
- 30 Reclines
- 32 Children
- 35 Jogs
- 37 Soaks
- 38 Inn
- 39 Cheers
- 41 Indigent
- 43 Rose up
- 44 Preposition
- 46 Land measure
- 48 To make firm
- 51 Beverage
- 53 Portico
- 57 Favourite
- 58 Comparative ending
- 60 Before
- 62 Mulberry
- 64 Negative

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



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BEIRA, LOURENCO MARQUES, DURBAN,
ALGOA BAY, CAPE TOWN & SOUTH AMERICAN
PORTS via Singapore & Colombo

BOMBAY & KARACHI via Singapore,
Penang and Colombo

CALCUTTA via Singapore, Belawan,
Deli & Rangoon

JAPAN PORTS

KEELUNG via Swatow and Amoy

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THIRD WEEK OF MARCH.

THIRD WEEK OF MARCH.

FOURTH WEEK OF MARCH.

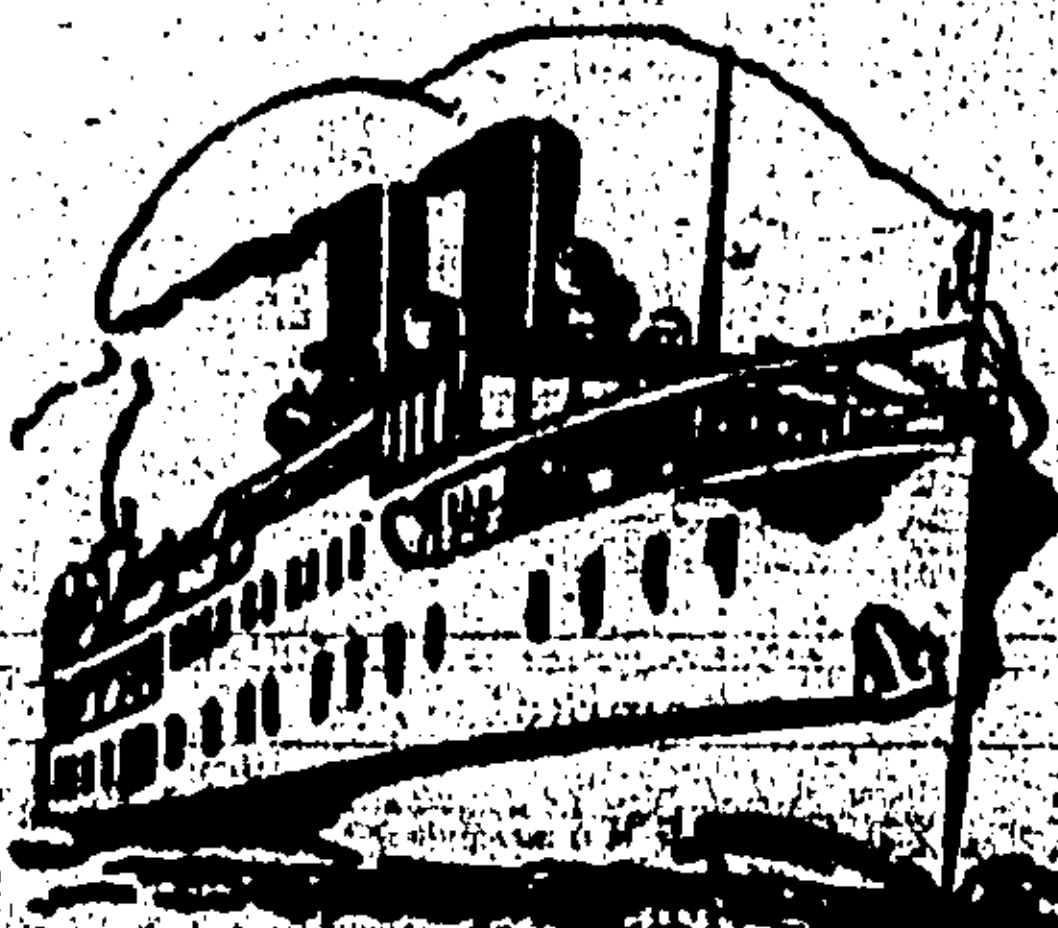
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TWO SAILINGS PER MONTH.
SEVEN SAILINGS PER MONTH.

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SUICIDE'S DIARY OF HIS LAST MOMENTS

Emotions during his last moments before committing suicide were described in a diary found near the body of a 27-year-old Seneca Indian, Montreville Sundown, who shot himself in his brother-in-law's home at Buffalo, New York.

"The gun is pointed at my heart. Time is now 11.15 a.m. I do not feel nervous but I am happy. I slip my finger to the trigger with one finger on it.

11.37 and all is well. I have always been a writer and have written a lot of stories, and I intend to keep on writing until my finger pulls the trigger of this gun.

11.42.—A dog barked and I looked out to see who it is. Time is near. I hear a noise, I hope no one don't come in now until 11.45.

"LIFE IS SO SHORT"
11.43½.—Ah, life is so short.

11.45.—I can't pull the trigger. Someone is shooting at the pleasants out in the cornfield. Too bad, I'm not a bird.

"It's 12.15 now. There's the post-man. I'll have to wait."
"Any moment now I'll pull."

ONE-EYED FORMER MINISTER JOINS ARMY

M. Robert Lasalle, French Deputy and former Minister of Pensions, is tough.

Although exempted by age, wounds and loss of an eye, M. Lasalle has enlisted for the duration, and is in a front line infantry regiment.

Even a quarter of a century ago he was fully exempted from duty because of his infirmity; yet in 1914 he fought in the trenches as a private, and was wounded three times, then captured.

ROWS IN THE CABINET: M.P.

Mr. Hore-Belisha quarrelled with other "live wires" in the Cabinet and on one occasion Mr. Chamberlain had difficulty in making peace.

This was alleged by Colonel Sir A. Lambert Ward, M.P. for North-West Hull, speaking at the headquarters of the local Conservative Association. He said:

"In spite of his great ability, Mr. Hore-Belisha is not too easy a man to get on with.

"APT TO SPARK"

"One has heard rumours of quarrels. There is not the least doubt that Mr. Hore-Belisha is one of the live wires in the Government, but he is not the only live wire in the Government.

"The trouble is that when live wires are brought into contact they are apt to spark.

"On one occasion during a Cabinet meeting so bad was the spark that it required all the tact of Mr. Chamberlain to damp down the conflagration.

"IT WAS INEVITABLE"

"The only thing under such circumstances is to get rid of the most highly charged live wire of them all I am afraid it was inevitable.

"There had been quarrels between Mr. Hore-Belisha's department (the War Office) and the Admiralty, the Air Ministry and the Ministry of Labour."

Colonel Lambert Ward also referred to the report that Mr. Hore-Belisha quarrelled with Mr. Winston Churchill because the First Lord of the landing of Canadian troops when Mr. Hore-Belisha thought he ought to have announced this himself.

LAST WORDS OF HIS GIRL

As she lay dying, Elsie May Ellington called the lover who had murdered her, "You bad—"

Sentenced to death for the crime, Ernest Edmund Hamerton, aged twenty-five, a kitchen porter, of Inville-road, Walworth, S.E., said "If I had lived, those three words would have haunted me to the grave."

After sentence had been passed, Hamerton turned to the Judge and said: "Thank you, sir" and smilingly went below.

"FINISHED WITH HIM"
At the Old Bailey the day before he pleaded guilty to having murdered Ellington, but later he pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The couple met in Lancashire, moved to London, and quarrelled when the girl was stated to have told Hamerton that she had "finished with him."

The girl, who was aged twenty-nine, was found dead in the scullery of the house where they both lived with a knife plunged deep into her body.

LOCAL SHARES

Following is the list of changes and enquiries in local share quotations to-day:

BANKS

Hong Kong Bank \$1495 b., \$1490/- \$1500 sa.

INSURANCES

Canton Ins. \$232½ b., \$232½ sa.
Union Ins. \$505 b.

H.K. Fire Ins. \$185 b.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, ETC.

H.K. and K. Wharves \$108 sa.

H.K. Docks \$23½ s., \$23½ sa.

Providents \$5.20 b.

LANDS, HOTELS & BLDGS.

H.K. and S. Hotels \$5.00 b.

H.K. Lands \$37.90 b., \$37.90/38 sa.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

H.K. Tramways \$18.15 sa.

Star Ferries \$68 b.

Yaumati Ferries \$27½ s.

China Lights (Old) \$8¼ b., \$8.30/- .35 sa.

China Lights (New) \$5.35 b., \$5.- 40/5½ sa.

H.K. Electrics \$68¼ b., \$68½ sa.

Telephones (Old) \$30.20 b., \$30 sa.

Telephones (New) \$11½ b.

INDUSTRIALS

Cements \$19.80 b.

H.K. Ropes \$5.95 b., \$6.10 s., \$5.90/- 6.05 sa.

STORES, &C.

Dairy Farms (Old) \$23 b.

Dairy Farms (New) \$22¼ b.

MISCELLANEOUS

Entertainments \$7.40 b.

MISCELLANEOUS

Antamoks Ps. .13 sa.

Atoks Ps. .18 b.

Baguio Gold Ps. .22½ b.

Batong Buhay Ps. .011 sa.

Benguet Consol. Ps. 5.70 b.

Big Wedge Ps. .19½ b.

Coco Grove Ps. .11½ sa.

Consol. Mines Ps. .0035 sa.

Demonstrations Ps. .10 b.

East Mindanao Ps. .10½ b.

I.X.L. Ps. .34½ sa.

Ipo Gold Ps. .10 b.

Itogons Ps. .22 sa.

Masbates Ps. .08¼ b.

Mind. Mother Lode Ps. .10 sa.

Mines Operation Ps. .09¼ sa.

Paracale Gumaus Ps. .19 b.

San Mauriello Ps. .76 sa.

Surigao Consol. Ps. .18½ sa.

Suyoc Consol. Ps. .13 sa.

Syndicate Inv. Ps. .02 b.

United Paracales Ps. .25½ sa.

LOCAL DOLLAR

The demand rate on the Hong Kong dollar to-day was 1/2 25/32.

Silver was quoted at 20-13/16 spot and 20-13/16 forward.

The cross rate London/New York was £—U.S.\$402.50 and New York/London £—U.S.\$377-3/4.

Mr. W. A. Short, of No. 197, Prince Edward Road, has reported that his residence was entered and \$300 worth of jewellery and clothing stolen some time yesterday.

DIFFICULT YEARS FOR CHILDREN

It's when children start to shoot up suddenly that they need your special attention. Children who are growing fast often tire easily, get pale, listless and do poorly at school.

The trouble is that children have a double job of work to do. They use up energy in work and play and at the same time they are growing!

Doctors and nurses have recommended Horlicks for years for children who need this extra energy. Horlicks moreover builds sturdy bone and muscle. You'll find that paleness disappears, and school-work improves. And the children seem to gain endless energy and "go." Get Horlicks to-day.

(4)



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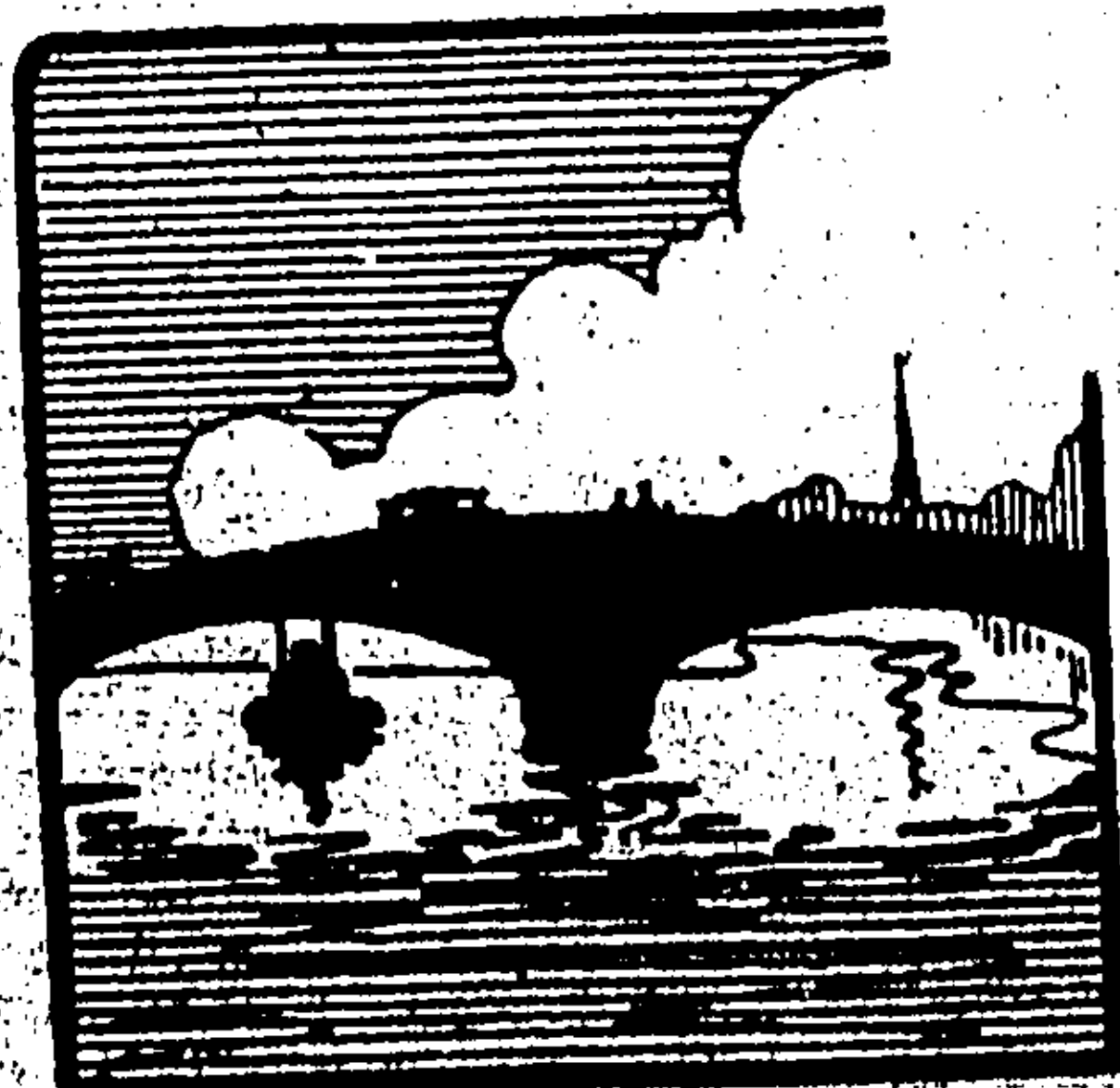
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THE KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION
DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents, Hong Kong.

PARIS BAN ON FOREIGN BROADCASTS

People in Paris may no longer listen to foreign broadcasts in public.

In the first restriction on radio reception since the war began, the Prefect of Police has forbidden the tuning in of foreign stations "in public establishments."

RUSSIA SEIZES POLISH FOOD

Appalling conditions in Russian-occupied Poland were described to a "Daily Telegraph" correspondent in Bucharest by a small party of Polish refugees who reached Rumania at the risk of their lives.

All the inhabitants of Eastern Poland are on the verge of starvation. Hundreds are dying daily from exposure and lack of sustenance. Their terrible sufferings are due partly to Russia's own lack of food.

Available stocks in Poland would have sufficed until the 1940 crops matured, but the Soviet military authorities seized vast supplies and sent them into the interior of Russia.

The Russians have seized everything available. All furniture has become State property. Poles, Ukrainians, White Russians and Jews are in a like plight. The man who can obtain a few dried-up apples and some lumps of coal with which to cook them counts himself lucky. Used tea-leaves are a luxury.

DIGGING FOR ROOTS

Black bread and water are the staple fare, but bread is often unobtainable for days at a time. In the food queues dozens drop daily from exhaustion.

The ration cards of Soviet employees entitle them to two loaves of black bread, or four eggs, or 2lb of apples daily. But he shops are usually sold out. Thousands roam the countryside, begging from the peasants or digging with their hands in the fields for edible roots.

I understand that the United States Red Cross relief organisation has not been allowed to penetrate into Russian-occupied Poland. Welfare societies here consider that stocks could easily be sent from Rumania if Soviet Government officials would permit entry and distribution under the supervision of neutrals.

A Polish refugee ex-soldier told me here that he had just heard that his wife and daughter had committed suicide. They had bartered all their belongings for food and had nothing left to offer but the clothes they wore.



A practical jokester is an adult who won't let his sense of humour grow up.

NAZI DELUSIONS ABOUT BRITAIN

A Pole who spent three months in different parts of Poland under German and Russian occupation and has just reached England says that the Germans firmly believe that there is an acute food shortage in Britain.

A German officer, he said, discussing the war, declared: "We shall adopt the same methods against England as in Poland. These will include bombing of towns, striking terror into the civil population, and dropping parachutists in large numbers. England must be punished for her obstinacy. Our rule in England will not be more lenient than in Poland."

TYRANNY IN CRACOW

Describing Nazi tyranny in Cracow, in South-Western Poland, the Pole said that all the best hotels were reserved for German officials. The best shopping areas in the town were likewise reserved for Germans.

Poles were transported in thousands to Germany. In the prison in Montelupi-street, Cracow, executions were carried out every night. Some prisoners were shot by the officers of the Gestapo with revolvers.

In Zakopane, the Polish winter resort, the rule of the Gestapo was no less severe. The Gestapo had established themselves in the Marilor, one of the most modern hotels in the town. Here many of the Polish upper classes were brought for trial before being carried away to be shot.

There were many instances of antagonism between the Gestapo and the local military authorities. Some of the Austrian commanders in Western Galicia tried to restrain the activities of the Gestapo, but were seldom successful.

Some of the atrocities committed against Jews in the Cracow district were too horrible to be described. Hundreds had been shot at sight without even the mockery of a Nazi trial.

PASSES FOR JEWS

Jews were compelled to carry passes authorising them to proceed from one part of the town to another. Almost invariably when stopped by a German policeman they were brutally slapped across the face before being asked to produce their pass.

The Germans, he said, seemed to take a malicious pleasure in seeing a helpless person in abject fear.

The Russians were hard at work fortifying their side of the new frontier in Poland. Heavy guns were being placed in position and strategic roads built.

CHINESE COUNTER-ATTACK IN CHUNGSHAN

Shlukwan, To-day.

Chinese troops have been counter-attacking the Japanese at Shekkl, inflicting many casualties.

In east Kwangtung Chinese troops advancing on Chaoan (Chaochow) have reached the northern suburbs.

A Japanese attack at Yeekai, north-west of Chaoan, on March 16 was repulsed.—Central News.

PREMIER TO LIFT THE VEIL

London, To-day.

In the Commons yesterday the Premier indicated he will deal in a statement to-day with figures of material assistance sent to Finland, the possibility of financial assistance in the Finnish reconstruction and the raid on the Orkneys.—British Wireless.

BANK HOLIDAYS.

In accordance with Government Ordinance, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of public business on FRIDAY, SATURDAY and MONDAY, the 22nd, 23rd and 26th March, 1940. (Easter Holidays).
Hong Kong, 18th March, 1940.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LTD.

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held in the Office of the Company, No. 2 Queen's Building, Hong Kong, on TUESDAY, 26th March, 1940, at noon for the consideration of the Directors' Report and Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1939.

The Share Register and Transfer Books will close from the 15th to 26th March, 1940, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

E. COCK.

Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, 27th February, 1940.

THE HONGKONG & KOWLOON WHARF & GODOWN CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FIFTY-THIRD ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. on TUESDAY, 2nd APRIL, 1940, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1939.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, the 23rd MARCH, 1940, to TUESDAY, the 2nd APRIL, 1940, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

C. M. MANNERS,
Secretary & Manager.

Hong Kong, 11th March, 1940.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

The Seventy-first Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Offices of the undersigned on THURSDAY, the 4th April, 1940, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended the 31st December, 1939.

The Share Register and Transfer Books will be closed from the 21st March to the 4th April, 1940, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
General Managers,

The Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

Hong Kong, 14th March, 1940.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

THURSDAY, the 21st MARCH, 1940, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

No. 35 Hankow Road, Kowloon, at their Sales room,

A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture

comprising:—
Teakwood Drawing Room, Bed Room, Dining Room and Office Furniture, Ornaments, Cutlery, E. P., Brass, Aluminium, Glass and Porcelain Ware, Carpets, Rugs, Perambulators, Electric Table Lamps & Heaters, Pictures, Gramophones & Records, Cooking Utensils, etc., etc.

also
A Few Pieces of Blackwood Furniture and

One Steel Filing Cabinet.

On View from Wednesday, the 22nd March, 1940.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,

Auctioneers.

Hong Kong, 19th March, 1940.

KAI TAK AIRPORT DANCE

The above Dance will take place at the Peninsula Hotel, Rose Room, on THURSDAY, March 21st, and not as previously advertised March 22nd, (Good Friday).

Tickets and Bookings already made are good for THURSDAY, March 21st.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fifty-first Ordinary Yearly Meeting will be held at the Company's Registered Office, 4th Floor, P. & O. Building on THURSDAY, 21st March 1940 at 11 a.m. for the purpose of presenting the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December 1939, electing Directors and Auditors and fixing their fees.

The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 9th March to 21st March 1940 both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By order of the Board of Directors
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., LTD.,
Agents.

Hong Kong, 22nd February, 1940.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company will be held in the P & O Building, Victoria, in the Colony of Hong Kong, at 11.15 o'clock in the forenoon on THURSDAY, the 21st day of March, 1940, or as soon thereafter as the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Company shall have terminated, for the purpose of considering and if thought fit passing the following resolution as a special resolution:—

That the Capital of the Company be increased from its present Capital of \$6,000,000 Hong Kong currency divided into 600,000 shares of \$10 each to \$18,000,000 Hong Kong currency divided into 1,800,000 shares of \$10 each and that such additional shares shall rank in all respects pari passu with the original Capital of the Company.

And for the purpose of considering and if thought fit passing the following resolutions, namely:—

1. That the Directors be and they are hereby authorised to capitalise the sum of \$3,000,000 Hong Kong currency part of the undivided profits of the Company standing to the credit of the Company's Reserve Fund and to allot to the Members holding shares of the Company as on the 1st day of July 1940 in respect of the net amount capitalised fully paid shares of the Company of equivalent nominal value in the proportion of one share for every two shares of the Company then held by such persons respectively and that such shares so allotted shall rank for dividends as from the 1st day of July, 1940.
2. That if, on such distribution as aforesaid, any person would be entitled to a fractional share the Directors shall, in lieu of issuing Fractional Certificates, cause the whole share to be allotted to a person or persons to be named by the Directors and such share shall, at such time as the Directors think fit, be sold, and the proceeds distributed amongst the persons entitled to the fractions making up such share.

By order of the Board of Directors,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., LTD.,
Agents.

Hong Kong, 22nd February, 1940.



"The Mist Of
The Years":
B.B.C. Recording

6.00 p.m.—B.B.C. RECORDING—"The Mist of the Years". Devised and produced by John Gough. Music arranged by Ian White.
6.29 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations.
6.30 p.m.—Popular Classics compered from the Studio.
7.30 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.
8.03 p.m.—Noel Coward in some of his Musical Plays.
8.30 p.m.—Compositions of Gershwin. Concerto in F Major for Piano and Orchestra.... Paul Whiteman &

To-day's Wireless

ZBW 355 M. (845 k.c.'s) and 31.49 M.
9.52 Megacycles

His Orchestra and Roy Bargy (Piano).
Bess, You Is My Woman Now (from 'Porgy and Bass').... Lawrence Tibbett and Helen Jepson with Orchestra.
Lullaby (from 'Porgy and Bass').... Helen Jepson (Soprano) with Orchestra.
9.02 p.m.—Concert Waltzes. Amorette-tanze (Gung'l); Old Vien-

na (Gems from Lanner's Waltzes—arr. Kremser); The Skaters (Gung'l).... Marek Weber & His Orchestra.

"Cards
On The
Table"

9.15 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
9.30 p.m.—London Relay—"Cards on the Table".
9.45 p.m.—Tino Rossi (Vocal) and the Orchestre Raymonde.
10.13 p.m.—Dance Music.
11.00 p.m.—CLOSE DOWN.



(By The Four Aces)

David Bruce Burnstone, Merwin D. Maier, Oswald Jacoby, Howard Schenken... World's leading Team-of-Four, Inventors of the system that has beaten every other system in existence.

EXPENSIVE SACRIFICE

Offhand we cannot say what the exact statistics are as to the frequency with which a nine-card suit occurs, but we feel that when we do hold one, we should gather in some points. In a recent Rubber Bridge game Howard Schenken found himself gazing fondly at nine clubs to the five top honours. Being vulnerable, he thought to himself, "Here's game and Rubber, and possibly a Slam." Then, to his dismay, his right-hand opponent opened the bidding with two hearts. His opponents quickly got to a small Slam whereupon Mr. Schenken decided that a sacrifice Grand Slam bid was cheaper than to let them make their small Slam.

East, Dealer
North-South vulnerable

♠ 9 8 7 2
♥ 6 5 4 3
♦ 10 9 7
♣ 9 6
♠ A Q J 10
♥ 8 7
♦ Q J 5 4
♣ 2
N
W
E
S
K 5 4
♥ A K Q J
♦ 10 9
♣ A K 2
♠ 2
♥ 8 6 3
♣ A K Q J 10 8 7 5 4
Mr. Schenken

The bidding:

East	South	West	North
3♥	3♣	3♠	Pass
6♥	7♣	Pass	Pass
Dbl.	Pass	Pass	Pass

The penalty was, as Mr. Schenken feared, down four, less honours, for a net total of 950 points. However, since East also held the five top honours in hearts, he would have scored 830 points in addition to the game. And since game is worth 300 points, it would seem as though Mr. Schenken made a worthwhile sacrifice.

However, on thinking the hand over, Mr. Schenken realised that a

fantastic lead might have set six hearts. If he had opened a small club, his partner would have won the trick with the nine, in which event he would surely have had sense enough to return a spade, which would be ruffed for the setting trick.

Yesterday, with both sides vulnerable, you were Merwin Maier's partner and held:

♠ Q 10 x x
♥ K J 10 x x
♦ x x
♣ K x

The bidding:

You	Burnstone	Maier	Schenken
Pass	1♦	Pass	Pass
(7)			

ANSWER: Bid one heart. Since Mr. Schenken was unable to respond to one diamond, it is safe to assume that your opponents have no game. Conversely, your partner should have at least a fair hand. Therefore you should be able to make a part score and possibly a game.

Score 100% for one heart, 70% for double (takeout), 20% for pass.

QUESTION NO. 362

Howard Schenken is your partner and you hold:

♠ A Q x x x
♥ J 10 x x
♦ x x
♣ J x

The bidding:

Burnstone	You	Jacoby	Schenken
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
What do you lead? (Answer tomorrow.)			

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

KWOK VICTOR LUDORUM

The annual sports of St. Stephen's College, were held yesterday. Prizes were distributed by Mrs. G. W. Pope.

Results were:—
Hop step and jump:—1, Kwok Chi-hung; 2, Wolfgang Yui; 3, Chan King-cheung. Distance: 11.20 metres.
1,500 metres:—1, Alex Chang; 2, Tan Eng-gie; 3, Hans Thung. Time: 5.41 3/5.
Senior 100 metres:—1, Chan King-cheung; 2, So Chin-guan; 3, Fung Shing-mo. Time: 12sec. Junior:—1, Ip Lai; 2, Wong Hong-chung; 3, Huang Lee-chuan. Time: 12sec.
Small boys' 50 metres:—1, Kaster; 2, Soong Yiu-ting; 3, Wong Man-wai. Time: 7 1/5 sec.
Junior high jump:—1, Chan Yiu-ming; 2, Leung Lai-yuen; 3, Han Tam-yuen. Height: 1.52 metres.
Senior long jump:—1, Chan King-cheung; 2, Fung Shing-mo; 3, So Chin-guan. Distance: 5.8 metres.
Small boys' 100 metres:—1, Soong Yiu-ting; 2, Kaster; 3, Wong Man-wai. Time: 14.8 sec.
Prep. school race (senior):—1, Lok Kah-fong; 2, Chan Lam-hay; 3, Tang Chaak-chuen.
Senior 200 metres:—1, Fung Shing-mo; 2, Tan Eng-gie; 3, Boone Siong-loy. Time: 28 sec. Junior:—1, Ip Lai; 2, Wong Hong-chung; 3, Chan Yiu-ming. Time: 25.8 sec.
Small boys' egg and spoon race:—1, Woo Pak-keung; 2, Wong Keng-lun; 3, Mark Man-biu.
Junior long jump:—1, Chan Yiu-ming; 2, Ip Lai and Han Tam-yuen (dead-heat). Distance: 5.05 metres.
Senior high jump:—1, Wolfgang Yui; 2, Fung Shing-mo. Height: 1.57 metres.
Children's egg and spoon race:—1, Chan Chiu-hel; 2, David Ashe; 3, Wong Yuen-ching.
Small boys' obstacle race:—1, Wong Man-wai; 2, Fung Kui-wang; 3, Wong King-lun.
Senior 400 metres:—1, Tan Eng-gie; 2, Alex Chang; 3, Hans Thung. Time: 1.03.6 Junior:—1, Kravi; 2, Leung Kai-wai; 3, Liu Shee-shut. Time: 1.08.

PREMATURE TO TALK OF PEACE CONFERENCE NOW

London, To-day.
The Prime Minister was asked in the Commons yesterday if he would give an assurance that the Finnish Government will not be prejudiced when the peace conference comes to be held by reason of their having accepted the Russian peace terms.
Mr. R. A. Butler, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replied it was not possible to forecast at this stage the scope of the peace conference or what the Government could undertake to achieve at the conference. — Reuter.

Pole vault:—1, Kwok Chi-hung; 2, Chan King-cheung; 3, Wolfgang Yui. Height: 2.88 metres (record).
Old boys' 200 metres handicap:—1, Ng Wei-wah; 2, Tan Kiang-kho; 3, Young Soong-lu.
Prep. school's race (Junior):—1, Wong Shiu-zai; 2, Wong Shun-tim; 3, Chan Kai-sing.
Junior 110 metres low hurdles:—1, Ip Chi; 2, Wong Hong-chung; 3, Chang On. Time: 17.6 sec.
Senior 110 metres high hurdles:—1, Wolfgang Yui; 2, Kwok Chi-hung; 3, So Chin-guan. Time: 19-sec. (record).
Small boys' three-legged race:—1, Wong Pak-keung and Ling Pei-ching; 2, Kaster and Fung Kui-wang; 3, Chau Ting-kam and Lee Ching-yue.
Group relay race:—1, Dragons; 2, Bulls; 3, Tigers.
Small boys' high jump:—1, Kaster; 2, Soong Yiu-ting; 3, Wong King-lun. Height: 1.27 metres.
Shot put:—1, Kwok Chi-hung; 2, Lim Tai-tim; 3, Loj Sian-keen. Distance: 10.98 metres.
Servants' race:—1, Tsang Kow; 2, Leung Wing-nin; 3, Lau Sing.
800 metres:—1, Tan Eng-gie; 2, Alex Chang; 3, Kravi.
Senior championship:—1, Kwok Chi-hung (18 points); Junior championship:—1, Ip Lai (12½ points).



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LIMITED

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SOFTBALL NOTES

TROJANS SCORE THIRTEEN RUNS IN ONE INNING

Grand Effort Against Club When Being Led 14-1

ARMY
SPORTLIGHT

(By "SQUADDY")

THE final of the Small Units' Cricket K. O. competition will take place to-morrow at Sookunpoo. The match is scheduled to commence at 2 p.m. and, if no decision is reached to-morrow, the match will continue at 2 p.m. the following day.

The teams concerned in the final are 40th Coy. R.E. and R.A.O.C. On paper this should result in a win for the 'Sappers' but queer things have been happening of late in this competition and, if 'Ordnance' win, I shall not be tremendously surprised.

This enterprising eleven last week defeated 'Signals,' who, in their previous match had eliminated the sturdy 'Medical' side. Actually it will depend on whether Boocock and Emberson can get amongst the batsmen and cause the same trouble as they did in previous games. 'Ordnance' cannot really be considered to have a strong batting side although they are liable to knock up a respectable score. The trouble is the 'Engineers' have some very useful bowlers—if you don't believe me Den yer gonna find out for yourself—(joke!) and even a strong batting side would be in difficulties against them.

However Sgt. Munton crashed the 'Signals' bowling about, so others can perhaps, do the same to that of 'Sappers'. Events will tell but it will surprise me if the match lasts more than one day—providing of course it is only one innings each.

THE Large Units' Cricket final will commence at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, the 26th March. The suggestion to make it an all day fixture was put forward by the R.E., and the C.S.U. collaborated with gusto! It will be an interesting match and any money which I have accidentally left over will be on the C.S.U.

WITH the weather as it is at present this does not seem to be the ideal moment to discuss aquatics but the Small Units are already preparing for the forthcoming swimming season. They are holding a meeting on the 21st March in the Cheero Club at 7 p.m. to discuss Departmental Polo and C.S.U. swimming, and hope to do as well if not better this season than they did last. One or two notable swimmers have left the Colony but it is hoped that the newcomers, combined with the talent remaining, will be sufficient to take some of the swimming honours.

TENNIS enthusiasts are also preparing for action and hold their meeting to discuss the forthcoming season on April 3rd. It will be interesting to see whether the new suggestion for playing this League will be agreed to or not. The suggestion is that two doubles and two singles be played and each pair or single to play the best of three sets against one opponent only. This should make for more interesting games and should add the personal touch to individual efforts.

MY warning regarding the strength of the opposition supplied by the Kumaons' soccer team was evidently justified as they altered the progress of R.A.S.C. in their bid for Third Division honours. However the 'Service Corps' got over the South China obstacle on Sunday and, if they win their two remaining fixtures, will take the championship. If the two teams at the top of this division finish up

PROMISING DEBUT
BY BEN ILDEFONSO

(By "GRANDSTAND")

NOTWITHSTANDING A CURTAILED programme owing to a postponement and a walkover, the two softball games played on Sunday proved to be quite interesting. Filipinos topped Liga Portuguesa 11-7 in the opener, and Hong Kong Baseball Club just managed to down Trojans in a 16-14 count.

In the absence of Dave Amper, the Filipino first string hurler, Ben Ildefonso was persuaded to take over the assignment on the mound, and, contrary to all expectations, held his own on the rubber, whiffing three and allowed Liga only six hits.

This is the first time Ben has pitched in a League game and although he appeared to have stage fright in the first inning he gained enough confidence later to show his wares and hold Liga to seven tallies, despite seven bobbles committed by his teammates.

Papa L.R. remarked that we will be seeing more of sonny boy Ben in future and by next season a full fledged chucker will be toeing the rubber for the Southern boys.

-COELHO NOT SO GOOD

Lefty Coelho opposed Ben on the mound but was not so successful with his benders. The Filipinos ganged up on him for 11 bingles, and eight miscues chalked up against his fielders further helped his downfall. Unfortunately Carlos Santos topped the miscue list, booting the pellet four times. Coelho fanned three and walked three.

The Filipinos, who batted first, started off with three tallies in the first canto. Marques reached first on a hit and was safe at second on a wild throw by catcher Carlos Santos. Herman Palma negotiated the first station on a wild throw by chucker Coelho and Marques scored on the play for the first Filipino run. Palma dented the plate later on a wild pitch; Luis Rocha scored on another wild pitch after he got on on a hit, and pilfered second. Harry Campos struck out for the first out and in a dazzling double play, shortstop Arturo Ozorio unassisted, disposed of Juan Patavaran and Andoy Eusebio for the second and third erasure.

Liga replied with one run in the first session, when Arturo Ozorio romped home on a walk, an error by Harry Campos and a steal. In the second and third frames the score board showed goose eggs for both teams! In the fourth, Filipinos annexed two more counts and Liga, not to be outdone, replied with the same number of tallies. Both teams were blanked again in the fifth. Filipinos staged a rally in the sixth which netted them five runs on four bingles, including a home run by Fidel Delano, one free transportation to first and two errors.

DESPERATE EFFORTS

Liga tried desperately to rally in the sixth but their efforts were only good

with equal points, it will necessitate a play off; goal average does not count.

OWING to weather conditions the remaining fixture in the Small Units Rugby League between 'Signals' and 24th Bty. R.A. was postponed on Saturday and will now take place to-morrow. When this is completed the date for the presentation of the cup will be fixed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Half-Miler—All letters must be accompanied by the name and address of correspondent.—Sports Ed.

for four tallies on four hits off Ben Ildefonso, including a triple by John Gomes and a double by Arturo Ozorio. The boys from the South pushed one more run in the last frame, while Liga were blanked in the inning.

R. H. E.
Filipinos 3 0 0 2 0 5 1-11 11 7
Liga 1 0 0 2 0 4 0-7 6 8

In a seven-a-side encounter Colonel "Whisky-Water" Dave Walker's boys were very lucky indeed to emerged victorious in a 16-14 count over Trojans.

Trojans created a new record when they scored no fewer than 13 runs in the sixth inning on only five scratch hits and four errors.

This lucky victory places the Hongkongites in the first division but with not much to spare. This might be a good excuse for a celebration in the Walkermen's camp because its not very often that they have the distinction of roosting in the first division coop. More power to the grand-dads of the League and may they repeat this good performance when they start playing hard ball in a month or two.

CLUB SCORE FIRST

Baseball Club were first to score when they opened up in the first canto with three markers on two hits. They scored two more in the second, one in the fourth and seven in the sixth. At this stage of the melee the Walkermen showed over-confidence when the tally sheet showed 14-1 in their favour. In the fateful sixth Trojans ground their teeth and, with the determination of a real Trojans, they smashed through the Baseball Club defence with no fewer than 13 runs to establish a new record in the men's League.

Doc Molthen who was on the slab for Baseball Club tried to break a record and almost succeeded in issuing three Annie Oakleys, in a row, which all meant runs.

Altogether the 14 Trojan runs were scored on five hits off Doc while the grandpops nicked Almeida for fifteen solid blows. MacKechnie topped the batting list with three hits in six times up.

R. H. E.
Club 3 2 0 1 0 7 3-16 15 6
Trojans 0 0 1 0 0 13 0-14 5 3

BADMINTON
FIXTURES

Norman Smith, favourite for the Colony Junior Badminton Championship, should be severely tested this evening, when, at Taikoo, he meets K. L. Lui, the brilliant King's player.

Having regard to his speed and aggression, however, Smith should win, although if Lui is able to pick up his smashes and concentrate on the short game, he should make a close fight of it.

An interesting intra-club mixed doubles match between David Kwok and Mrs. Wilson, and H. Eardley and Miss Decima Eardley should also be a close affair with the verdict going to the latter pair.

C. Au and P. H. Wong, favourites for the doubles crown, will be in action this evening but they unlikely to be seriously extended by H. Gonsalves and R. Marques.

PROGRAMME

MIXED DOUBLES
D. Kwok and Mrs. P. Wilson v H. Eardley and Miss D. Eardley (Taikoo, 8 p.m.)
JUNIOR SINGLES
K. L. Lui v N. L. Smith (Taikoo, 8.30 p.m.)
T. S. Young v J. Clark (King's, 8.30 p.m.)
MEN'S DOUBLES
A. L. Fisher and P. Wynter-Blyth v A. M. Silva and M. A. Oliveira (Taikoo, 9 p.m.)
C. Au and P. H. Wong v R. Marques and H. F. Gonsalves (King's 9 p.m.)

TO-DAY'S TENNIS

All Colony tennis matches down for decision at Hong Kong Cricket Club yesterday were postponed owing to the inclement weather. Only two matches, unlikely to rise beyond mediocrity, will be played to-day if the rain holds off.

Programme

OPEN DOUBLES
Kwok Hing-chung and Lui Kwai-fan v C. H. R. Hyde and J. J. Ferguson (5).
T. A. Pearce and B. C. Fay v T. C. Chan and Marsland Ma (8).
HANDICAP SINGLES
G. W. Sewell (-4/6) v A. C. I. Bowker (-3/6) (1).
A. K. Mackenzie (+2/6) v E. Zulauf (-15) (3).
A. H. Barwell (-1/6) v J. C. Pool (+1/6) (6).
D. M. Macdougall (-15.2) v P. W. Blyth (-2/6) (7).
HANDICAP MIXED DOUBLES
D. G. Allen and Miss J. Purvis (scratch) v C. B. and Mrs. Nicholson (-3/6) (2).
H. J. Armstrong and Mrs. L. R. Andrewes (-30) v H. D. Bidwell and Miss E. Lammert (-2/6) (4).

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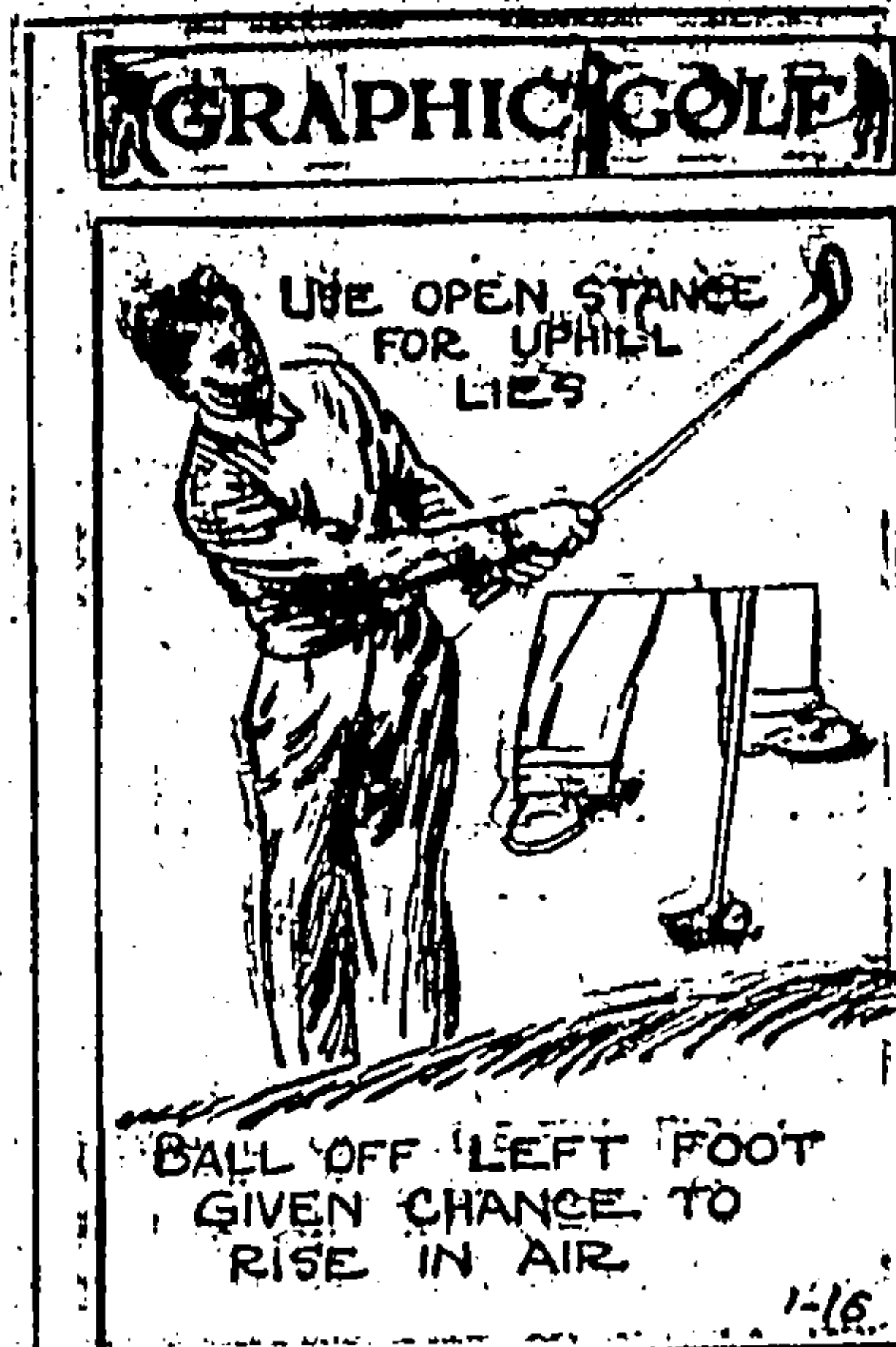
by BEST BALL

When the ball is lying on a slope, i.e., a hanging lie, and the aim is to play it uphill, employ an open stance with the ball nearer the left foot. Many players find a position with the ball off the left heel best for such a shot. This gives the clubhead a chance to gain full momentum and still contact the ball with the clubface in the best position to raise the sphere into the air.

If the ball is further back toward the right foot, the ball will rise so abruptly into the air and with so much less velocity that the distance it will actually cover is reduced. The open stance, by its formation will keep the player hitting through the ball despite the pull of gravity tending to restrict the shot. The left hip being well out of the path of the club, there is no danger of the hands being stopped by the body at the impact stage. The path ahead is clear if the player will only retain his balance.

NEXT ARTICLE:—

APPLY CONSTRUCTIVE
THINKING TO GREEN



T.T. MATCH POSTPONED

It is notified that the Triangular Hockey Tournament match between Club and Army, originally scheduled to take place to-morrow, has been postponed.

"REFeree" SELECTS AN ARMY SOCCER TEAM WORTHY OF THE NAME!

IN VIEW OF the every poor performances given by the Army football team this season, I am tempted to select a side worthy of Army, and in the following team are well-known players and others who have not been in the limelight:—

Reynolds (Ordnance); Naysmith (Royals) and Sheehan (Middlesex); Bright (Middlesex); Shaw (Engineers) and Guy (30th R.A.); Owens (8th R.A.); Nichols (Ordnance) Fox (Engineers); Atkins (24th R.A.) and Partab Singh (Kumaona).

All of the players mentioned are splendid footballers and must have

FANLING GOLF RESULTS

Following were the results in the second round of the Mixed Foursomes Golf competition, at Fanling recently: Lt. Comdr. and Mrs. Linton beat Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Stewart one up. Mr. and Mrs. L. A. R. Duncan beat J. W. Mayhew and Mrs. Smalley two up. Major and Mrs. Williams beat Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Stark one up. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. R. Mitchell beat L. Jackson and Mrs. Rowell three and one.

Request By League Hon. Secretary

(By "ADREM")

I have been requested by the Hon. Secretary of the Hong Kong Cricket League, Mr. A. H. Madar, c/o Arcull Bros., Holland House, to request that all Club secretaries or captains send in records of their League matches as soon as possible.

not only played in representative games but possess the right temperament. Quite a number are as yet unknown, having recently arrived in the Colony and consequently their names will not convey a great deal, but those who have been in League games will agree that they are worthy of recognition by Army. Reynolds, the goalkeeper, is a recent arrival and played for Doncaster Rovers before joining the Army. His performances for the Ordnance since arriving here have stamped him as a keeper of no mean standard. He is now playing for St. Joseph's and should prove a valuable acquisition.

Naysmith, has played in representative games before and should be persevered with. A strong kicker and a deadly tackler, he has a disconcerting effect on the majority of our speedy and dangerous wingers.

Sheehan, of little more can be said of this splendid player. Not only has he covered himself with glory in his own unit games but he has produced his best in all representative games played in, despite the fact he has not been in the best of health recently.

Bright is another splendid and a tireless worker for the full period of the game. He relies mainly on constructive methods in support of his forwards, and is always in the thick of things in defence.

Shaw, as centre-half, is an unassuming player who always uses his brains. He distributes the ball to advantage on all occasions and is a decided acquisition with his height in defence.

Guy is a young player who should go far as footballer. He is of the rugged type, but he nevertheless works hard throughout the game. He recently acquitted himself splendidly in Shanghai.

Owens. Very little has been mentioned of this diminutive winger. Small in stature, he is very speedy and his centring is almost perfect. He has all the capability and qualities of a winger.

Nichols is another player who recently arrived in the Colony with a good reputation. Up to the present he has had very little opportunity to produce his best. He plays the Scottish type of football, which is a decided asset when playing on hard grounds, and he should prove a good partner to Owens.

Fox, the Sappers' speedy centre-forward, possesses a shot in either foot. Given the right type of passes he will always produce the desired results.

Atkins is a marksman of no mean ability as results during the present season prove. An unknown player in representative games, he should be given a trial.

Partab Singh. This player is already well known in hockey circles, but he is also a keen footballer. He possesses amazing speed and ball control and has an abundance of energy. He has not yet been mentioned for a trial in Army games but should be considered.

H.K.C.C. JUNIORS

Following will represent Hong Kong Cricket Club and XI v. Challenge XI at Cranford on Saturday at 2.00 p.m.: E. J. R. Mitchell (Capt.), H. J. Armstrong, C. W. E. Bishop, G. F. Charlton, A. T. Dow, R. D. Gillespie, Brigadier T. Macdonald, B. W. Patterson, D. O. Parsons, D. S. Robb and M. W. Stout.

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FEBRUARY, 1940

Vol. X, No. 2

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The Revival of Realism, by James Feibleman
Cheng Ch'iao, A Pioneer in Library Methods, by K. T. Wu

The Mystery of Maya, by Wilbur Burton
Youthful Nations, by Lancelot Forster

POEMS

Three Modern Chinese Poems. Translated by Arno L. Bader and Lucien Mao

CHRONICLE

Archaeology Chronicle, by Pei Chung-ch'ing

TRANSLATION

Good Iron Is not for Nails, by Lu Yen. Translated by Richard L. Jen.

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PUBLIC AUCTION

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS

of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on TUESDAY, the 26th day of March, 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Wong Nei Chung, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in Square feet	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
1	Inland Lot No. 5748.	Opposite Inland Lot No. 2336, Tsai Tak Street, Wong Nei Chung.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	As per sale plan.	About 3,470	\$64 \$10,410



PUBLIC AUCTION

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS

of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on TUESDAY, the 26th day of March, 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Shamshui, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July, 1898, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 24 years less the last three days thereof.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in Square feet	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
2	New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2774.	Junction of Shun-Ning Road & Kiu-Kiang Street, Shamshui.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	As per sale plan.	About 5,520	\$72 \$5,220



PUBLIC AUCTION

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS

of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on TUESDAY, the 26th day of March, 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Yaumati, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 5 years.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in Square feet	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
3	Kowloon Inland Lot No. 4237.	Near Kowloon Island Lot No. 3386, Nathan Road, Kowloon.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	As per Sale Plan	About 2,860	\$52 \$2,700



PUBLIC AUCTION

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS

of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on TUESDAY, the 26th day of March, 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Cheung Sha Wan, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July, 1898, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 24 years less the last three days thereof.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in Square feet	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
4	New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2775.	Junction of Causeway Road and Wing Lung Street, Cheung Sha Wan.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	As per sale plan.	About 6,110	\$84 \$6,110

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THE SECOND EXTRA RACE MEETING will be held (weather permitting) at HAPPY VALLEY on SATURDAY, 23rd and MONDAY, 25th March, 1940, commencing at 12.30 p.m. on both days.

The First Bell will be rung at 12 Noon and the Tiffin Interval will be after the second race (1 p.m.) on both days.

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The Secretary's Office, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, (Tel. 27794) will close at 10.45 a.m. on both days.

Tiffins are obtainable at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 21020).

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The price of Admission to the Public Enclosure is \$1.00 per day including Tax, for all Persons, including Ladies, and is payable at the Gate. Soldiers and sailors in Uniform are admitted Half Price.

By Order,

C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.

Hong Kong, 18th March, 1940.

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NAZI AIRMEN HAVE FUN IN NORTH SEA

Copenhagen, To-day.

Two Danish trawlers which arrived at Jutland yesterday reported having been attacked by Nazi planes, while fishing in the North Sea.

The first trawler said a Nazi plane bombed and machine-gunned the ship, though no hits were scored and there were no casualties.

The second trawler was attacked by two planes. The fishermen cut their nets and made off but were pursued by the aircraft, which dropped many bombs and machine-gunned the decks. No damage was done.—Reuter.

Havas adds that the attack took place at a point 250 miles off Thybo-roen, western Jutland.

VATICAN INTEREST IN BRENNER TALKS

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Vatican City, To-day.

The Pope displayed great interest in the Hitler/Mussolini conference. Soon after receiving Mr. Welles in audience, the Pope summoned the German Ambassador to the Holy See, to request details and a clue as to the scope of the meeting.—Havas.

FRANCE CALLING UP MORE MEN

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

Paris, To-day.

It is officially announced that the next contingent of men 20 years old will be called to the Colours on April 15.

Some will be sent to North Africa.—Havas.

INGENIOUS BERLIN SCHEME REPORTED

(Continued from Page 1)

Diplomatic Activity

Swiss correspondents in Berlin are of the opinion that the problem of South-Eastern Europe was the main subject of the Brenner Pass conversations.

It is pointed out that for the past few days there has been considerable diplomatic activity between Rome, Berlin and the Balkan capitals, as well as Ankara and Moscow.

The "Basler Nachrichten" is of the opinion that the Duce-Fuehrer interview will merely result in a joint declaration of special guarantees to some Balkan states.

Italian Silence

Meanwhile Mussolini and Ciano arrived in Rome last night at 11.45 p.m., amid popular enthusiasm.

While in conference with Hitler, Il Duce kept in constant touch with Rome and perhaps with other European capitals as well, since his train had several telephone connections.

The Italian press is most mute about the talks but large space is devoted to French and British reactions and suggestions that the two dictators discussed a "peace offensive."

Italian correspondents in London and Paris are of the opinion that such attempts do not have any serious chance of success, considering the feeling evidenced in Britain and France.

The Paris correspondent of "Lavoro Fascista" writes:—

"It cannot be concealed that the Allies' reaction does not allow any hope of success for the eventual initiative in favour of peace."—Havas.



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Macao, To-day.

Chinese forces who were compelled to withdraw from Shek-ki and other towns in the Chungshan District have resorted to guerilla tactics and are harrassing the Japanese communication lines. This morning a guerilla Unit attacked a Japanese outpost outside Shek-ki, killing 10 and wounding several Japanese soldiers besides capturing a number of rifles, machineguns and ammunition.—Our Own Correspondent.

There were 11 deaths from, and 12 cases of, smallpox in Hong Kong during the week ending March 16, and 10 deaths (21 cases, 1 imported) of meningitis, reports the Medical Department. On Monday, four new cases of smallpox were registered.

MACAO'S SOCCER TEAM

Macao will be represented by the following in the Interport soccer game on Sunday on the Club ground.

A. Santos; Chiu Fui-hon and A. Colaco; Lau Hon-san Lau Ching-to and Magalhaes; Rego, Joaillho, Carvalho, Lau Chung-san and Ip Pou-tou.

Reserves:—Boyes, Cordova, Lau Cheung Kuan and Leong Chui-wah.

SCOTS TEAM

Following have been chosen to represent Scotland in the Final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition against China on Easter Monday at Sookunpoo.

Duncan; Bone and Blackburn, Birrell, Williamson and Clarke; Munro, Pryde, Coull, Ferrier and Tait. Reserves — Parnaby, Dignan Gordon and Fraser.

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